

**In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

No. 7-57V

Filed: April 25, 2011

BALAJI BASHYAM and KAVITHA *
RAGHUNATHAN, as legal representatives of *
their minor son, Hridhay R. Bashyam, *

Petitioners, *

v. *

SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT *
OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, *

Respondent. *

Joint Stipulation;
Attorney Fees and Costs

DECISION ON ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS¹

Vowell, Special Master:

In this case under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program,² I issued a decision on March 11, 2011, denying compensation and dismissing this case. On April 25, 2011, the parties filed a stipulation for attorney fees and costs in this matter. That stipulation proposes an amount payable for petitioners' attorney fees and costs, and respondent does not oppose that proposal. The stipulation includes a representation by petitioners' counsel that petitioners have incurred \$250 in out-of-pocket expenses contemplated in the stipulated amount.

I find that this petition was brought in good faith and that there existed a reasonable basis for the claim. Therefore, an award for fees and costs is appropriate, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(b) and (e)(1). Further, the proposed amount seems

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, that satisfies the criteria in § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, I will delete such material from public access.

² The applicable statutory provisions defining the program are found at 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 *et seq.* (2006).

reasonable and appropriate. **Accordingly, I hereby award the total \$5,907.14³ as a lump sum in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioners, Balaji Bashyam and Kavitha Raghunathan, and petitioners' attorney, David L. Terzian.** Petitioners shall be reimbursed from this amount \$250 for their out-of-pocket expenses, and petitioners' attorney shall receive the remaining amount for his fees and costs.

In the absence of a timely-filed motion for review filed pursuant to Appendix B of the Rules of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the clerk of the court shall enter judgment in accordance herewith.⁴

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Denise K. Vowell
Denise K. Vowell
Special Master

³ This amount is intended to cover all legal expenses incurred in this matter. This award encompasses all charges by the attorney against a client, "advanced costs" as well as fees for legal services rendered. Furthermore, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) that would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. See *generally Beck v. Sec'y, HHS*, 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

⁴ Entry of judgment can be expedited by each party's filing of a notice renouncing the right to seek review. See Vaccine Rule 11(a).