

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 09-526V
Filed: May 11, 2011**

TARA STRINGFELLOW,	*	
	*	
Petitioner,	*	
v.	*	Attorney Fees and Costs;
	*	Stipulation
SECRETARY OF HEALTH	*	
AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
	*	
Respondent.	*	
	*	

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 April 7, 2011, awarding compensation based on a stipulation of the parties. On April 27, 2011, petitioner filed an application for attorney fees and costs, accounting for her attorneys' time and expenses, and a statement in compliance with General Order 9. On May 11, 2011, the parties filed a joint stipulation on attorneys' fees and costs. The stipulation indicates that the parties informally discussed respondent's objections to the application, and it includes an amended request for petitioner's attorney fees and costs to which respondent does not object.

Petitioner is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(b) and (e)(1). Further, the proposed amount seems reasonable and

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in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), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, 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).

appropriate. **Accordingly, I hereby award the total \$20,000.00³ in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner, Tara Stringfellow, and petitioner's counsel, Black, McLaren, Jones, Ryland & Griffee Law Firm, for petitioner's attorney 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).