

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

ORIGINAL

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

(Filed: March 28, 2006)

FILED
MAR 28 2006
O S M
U.S. COURT OF
FEDERAL CLAIMS

IN RE: CLAIMS FOR VACCINE INJURIES *
RESULTING IN AUTISM SPECTRUM *
DISORDER OR A SIMILAR *
NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER *

VARIOUS PETITIONERS, *

v. *

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND *
HUMAN SERVICES, *

Respondent. *

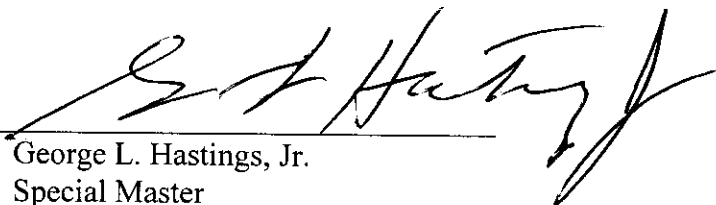
AUTISM MASTER FILE

**NOTICE RE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE AND POTENTIAL
VACCINE-RELATED AND AUTISM-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

The U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the court whose judges review the special masters' decisions in Vaccine Act cases, will host its annual judicial conference on October 25, 2006, in Washington, D.C. The general purpose of the conference, like all judicial conferences, is to provide a forum for interaction between the courts' judges and its bar members. The Vaccine Act special masters will be participating in the conference as well as the court's judges. This Notice is to alert Vaccine Act attorneys that the Office of Special Masters (OSM) is scheduling certain Vaccine Act-related and Autism-related activities in conjunction with that judicial conference.

Specifically, I will conduct an "in-person" status conference concerning the Omnibus Autism Proceeding. Any attorney with a pending autism case will be invited to participate in that status conference, with ample time provided for asking questions. Further, the Petitioners' Steering Committee in the Omnibus Autism Proceeding is considering whether to conduct its own meeting in conjunction with the judicial conference. Finally, the OSM will also present a program devoted to "causation-in-fact" issues in Vaccine Act proceedings in general (not specific to the autism cases).

In the following weeks I will be working with the attorneys in the Omnibus Autism Proceeding to finalize details with respect to the Autism-related activities, and the OSM will be working to finalize details with respect to the other Vaccine Act-related program. I will post details on this Omnibus Autism Proceeding portion of the court's website. In addition, the Court's website will also soon be posting general information concerning the judicial conference.



George L. Hastings, Jr.
Special Master