

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

No. 06-775V
Filed: July 1, 2011
Unpublished

BRIGITTE MUELLER,

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Petitioner,

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Attorney fees and costs

v.

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

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Respondent.

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Lisa Annette Roquemore, Broker & Associates, P.C., Irvine, C.A., for Petitioner.
Ryan Daniels Pyles, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

ATTORNEY’S FEES AND COSTS DECISION¹

GOLKIEWICZ, Special Master.

On June 30, 2011, the parties filed a Stipulation of Fact Concerning Final Attorneys’ Fees and Costs (“Fee Stipulation”). The Fee Stipulation states that “[p]etitioner filed a Final Application for Attorneys’ Fees and Costs . . . [r]espondent raised objections to certain items in petitioner’s Application, Based on these discussions, petitioner has amended her Application in this matter to request reimbursement for attorneys’ fees and costs in the amount of \$161,685.06, to which respondent does not object.” Fee Stipulation at ¶¶2-3.

¹ The undersigned intends to post this decision on the website for the United States Court of Federal Claims, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002). **As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction “of any information furnished by that party (1) that is a trade secret or commercial or financial in substance and is privileged or confidential; or (2) that includes medical files or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy.” Vaccine Rule 18(b). Otherwise, the entire decision will be available to the public. Id. Any motion for redaction must be filed by no later than fourteen (14) days after filing date of this filing. Further, consistent with the statutory requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision, order, ruling, etc.**

In compliance with General Order #9, “petitioner advanced \$2,488.94 in reimbursable costs in pursuit of her claim. This amount is in addition to the attorneys’ fees and costs stated in paragraph 3.” Fee Stipulation at ¶ 4.

The court hereby awards the petitioner attorney fees and costs in the total amount of \$164,174.00. **Specifically, petitioner is awarded a lump sum of \$161,685.06 in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner and petitioner’s attorney; petitioner is also awarded a lump sum of \$2,488.94 in the form of a check payable to petitioner individually.**

The Clerk of the Court is directed to enter judgment accordingly.²

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Gary J. Golkiewicz
Gary J. Golkiewicz
Special Master

²Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties can expedite entry of judgment by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review by a United States Court of Federal Claims judge. Furthermore, this amount is intended to cover all legal expenses. 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.A. §300aa-15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) which would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. See generally, Beck v. Secretary of the Dept. of Health & Human Servs., 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir. 1991).