

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-0813V

Filed: December 20, 2016

UNPUBLISHED

JEAN MANN,

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Petitioner,

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v.

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Damages Decision Based on Stipulation
Tetanus-Diphtheria-Acellular Pertussis
("Tdap") Vaccine; Brachial Neuritis;
Special Processing Unit ("SPU")

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

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Respondent.

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Robert Joel Krakow, Law Offices, New York, NY, for petitioner.

Claudia Gangi Barnes, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On July 31, 2015, Jean Mann ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that she suffered brachial neuritis of her left shoulder as a result of receiving a tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis ("Tdap") vaccine on August 15, 2012. Petition at 4; Stipulation, filed December 20, 2016, at ¶ 2, 4. Petitioner further alleges that she experienced the residual effects of her injury for more than six months. Petition at 4; Stipulation at ¶ 5. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On April 11, 2016, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for brachial neuritis. On December 20, 2016, respondent filed a joint stipulation, stating that petitioner should be awarded \$179,100.00. Stipulation at ¶9.

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the stipulation.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached stipulation, the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$179,100.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Stipulation at ¶ 9. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). *Id.*

The undersigned approves the requested amount for petitioner's compensation. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey
Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

8. Accordingly, petitioner is entitled to compensation under the terms of the Vaccine Act for her brachial neuritis. Therefore, a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 9 of this stipulation.

9. As soon as practicable after an entry of judgment reflecting a decision consistent with the terms of this Stipulation, and after petitioner has filed an election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services will issue the following vaccine compensation payment:

A lump sum of \$179,100.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

10. As soon as practicable after the entry of judgment on entitlement in this case, and after petitioner has filed both a proper and timely election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), and an application, the parties will submit to further proceedings before the special master to award reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.

11. Petitioner and her attorney represent that they have identified to respondent all known sources of payment for items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), including State compensation programs, insurance policies, Federal or State health benefits programs (other than Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.)), or entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

12. Payments made pursuant to paragraph 9 and any amounts awarded pursuant to paragraph 10 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

13. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorney's fees and litigation costs, the money provided pursuant to this Stipulation will be used solely for the benefit of petitioner as contemplated by a strict construction of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) and (d), and subject to the conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g) and (h).

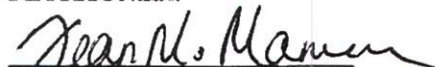
14. In return for the payment described in paragraph 9, petitioner, in her individual capacity, and on behalf of her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever irrevocably and unconditionally release, acquit and discharge the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from any and all actions or causes of action (including agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature) that have been brought, could have been brought, or could be timely brought in the Court of Federal Claims, under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 et seq., on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected personal injuries to or death of petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, her Tdap vaccination administered on August 5, 2012, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about July 31, 2015, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 15-813V.

15. If petitioner should die prior to entry of judgment, this agreement shall be voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.


16. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation or if the Court of Federal Claims fails to enter judgment in conformity with a decision that is in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, then the parties' settlement and this Stipulation shall be voidable at the sole discretion of either party.

Respectfully submitted,


PETITIONER:


JEAN MANN

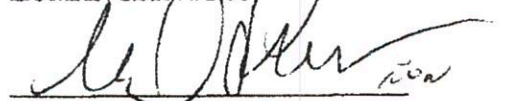
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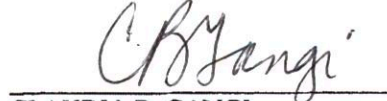
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Dated: 12-20-16