

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-0652V

Filed: March 14, 2017

Unpublished

SARAH ETHERIDGE-CRISWELL,

*

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Petitioner,

*

v.

*

*

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

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*

*

Respondent.

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*

*Danielle A. Strait, Maglio Christopher and Toale, PA, Washington, DC, for petitioner.
Ilene C. Albala, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On June 2, 2016, Sarah Etheridge-Criswell (“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 alleged that she suffered an injury to her left shoulder as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine administered on December 14, 2014. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit (“SPU”) of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 18, 2016, the undersigned issued a ruling on entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation for a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”). On March 13, 2017, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$120,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. Based

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website,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).

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

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$120,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Sarah Etheridge-Criswell.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

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.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

SARAH ETHERIDGE-CRISWELL,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	No. 16-652V
)	Chief Special Master Dorsey
)	ECF
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN)	
SERVICES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

I. Items of Compensation

On October 18, 2016, Chief Special Master Dorsey issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation. Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$120,000.00, which represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).¹

Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$120,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner.

Petitioner agrees.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

¹ Should petitioner die prior to the entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 13, 2017