

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 18-1268V

UNPUBLISHED

LORI A. HILDEBRAND,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: March 11, 2020

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Shoulder  
Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration (SIRVA)

*Jeffrey A. Golvash, Golvash & Epstein, LLC, Pittsburgh, PA, for petitioner.*

*Laurie Wiesner, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES**<sup>1</sup>

On August 22, 2018, Lori Hildebrand filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of her September 23, 2016 influenza (“flu”) vaccination. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 25, 2019, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On March 9, 2020, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$66,000.00 in actual and projected pain and suffering. This amount reflects that the award for projected pain and suffering has been reduced to net present value. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.*

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in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). **This means the decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** 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, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> 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, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$66,000.00 (representing compensation for Petitioner's actual and projected pain and suffering) in the form of a check payable to Petitioner.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Brian H. Corcoran**  
Brian H. Corcoran  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> 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**

LORI HILDEBRAND,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. 18-1268V
	)	Chief Special Master Corcoran
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND	)	ECF
HUMAN SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION**

On August 22, 2018, Lori Hildebrand (“petitioner”) filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (“Vaccine Act” or “Act”), alleging that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of an influenza vaccine she received on September 23, 2016. Petition at 3-5. On October 24, 2019, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (“respondent”) filed a Rule 4(c) Report indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Act, and on October 25, 2019, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 32; ECF No. 33.

**I. Item of Compensation**

Respondent proffers that Lori Hildebrand should be awarded \$66,000.00 in actual and projected pain and suffering. This amount reflects that the award for projected pain and suffering has been reduced to net present value. See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

**II. Form of the Award**

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to Lori Hildebrand should be made through a lump sum payment as described below and request that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following<sup>1</sup>: a lump sum payment of \$66,000.00, representing compensation for pain and suffering, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Lori Hildebrand.

**III. Summary of Recommended Payments Following Judgment**

Lump sum payable to petitioner, Lori Hildebrand:	<b>\$66,000.00</b>
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Respectfully submitted,

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Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO  
Acting Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER PEARLMAN  
Assistant Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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

s/Laurie Wiesner  
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DATE: March 9, 2020