

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 23-0990V

L.M.,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: February 11, 2026

Refiled as Redacted: May 15, 2026

*Glen Howard Sturtevant, Jr., Rawls Law Group (Richmond), Richmond, VA, for  
Petitioner.*

*James Connor Daughton, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for  
Respondent.*

### **DECISION ON JOINT STIPULATION<sup>1</sup>**

On June 28, 2023, L.M. 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”). The petition seeks compensation for injuries allegedly related to Petitioner’s receipt of a tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the “Table”), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a), on August 13, 2020.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> When this Decision was originally filed, I advised my intent to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the EGovernment Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner filed a timely motion to redact certain information. This Decision is being reissued with Petitioner’s full name redacted to initials in the case caption and throughout the Decision. Except for those changes and this footnote, no other substantive changes have been made. This Decision will be posted on the court’s website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, with no further opportunity to move for redaction.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

<sup>3</sup> Petitioner received an influenza vaccine, also in her left shoulder, on September 14, 2020. Influenza vaccines are also contained on the Table.

Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) within the time period set forth in the Table following administration of the Tdap vaccine. Petitioner further alleges that she experienced the residual effects of this alleged injury for more than six months.

Respondent denies that Petitioner sustained a Table SIRVA injury; denies that the Tdap vaccine and/or the influenza vaccine caused Petitioner’s alleged shoulder injury, or any other injury; and denies that Petitioner’s current condition is a sequela of a vaccine-related injury.

Nevertheless, on February 11, 2026, the parties filed the attached joint stipulation stating that a decision should be entered awarding compensation. I find the stipulation reasonable and adopt it as my decision awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Stipulation, I **award** the following compensation:

**A lump sum of \$9,000.00 to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner’s counsel’s IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner.** Stipulation at ¶ 8. This amount represents compensation for all items of damages that would be available under Section 15(a). *Id.*

I approve the requested amount for Petitioner’s compensation. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>4</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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

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<sup>4</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**

L.M.

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 23-990V (ECF)

Chief Special Master Brian H. Corcoran

**STIPULATION**

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. L.M. (“petitioner”) filed a petition for vaccine compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10 to -34 (the “Vaccine Program”). The petition seeks compensation for injuries allegedly related to petitioner’s receipt of a tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the “Table”), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a).
2. Petitioner received a Tdap vaccine in her left shoulder on August 13, 2020.<sup>1</sup>
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that petitioner suffered from a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) within the time period set forth in the Table following administration of the vaccine. Petitioner further alleges that petitioner experienced the residual effects of the alleged injury for more than six months.

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<sup>1</sup> Petitioner received an influenza vaccine, also in her left shoulder, on September 14, 2020. Influenza vaccines are also contained on the Table.

5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of the alleged injury.

6. Respondent denies that petitioner sustained a SIRVA Table injury; denies that the Tdap vaccine and/or the influenza vaccine caused petitioner's alleged shoulder injury, or any other injury; and denies that petitioner's current condition is a sequela of a vaccine-related injury.

7. Maintaining their above-stated positions, the parties nevertheless now agree that the issues between them shall be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 8 of this Stipulation.

8. 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 **\$9,000.00** to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

9. 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 attorneys' fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.

10. Petitioner and petitioner's attorney represent that compensation to be provided pursuant to this Stipulation is not for any items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), to the extent that payment has been made or can

reasonably be expected to be made under any 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 by entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

11. Payment made pursuant to paragraph 8 and any amounts awarded pursuant to paragraph 9 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

12. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs, and past unreimbursed expenses, 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).

13. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, in petitioner's individual capacity, and on behalf of petitioner's 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 hereafter be timely brought in the Court of Federal Claims, under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. § 300 aa-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, the Tdap vaccination administered on August 13, 2020, and/or the influenza vaccine administered on September 14, 2020, as alleged

by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about June 28, 2023, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 23-990V.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete negotiated settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended, except as otherwise noted in paragraph 9 above. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to. The parties further agree and understand that the award described in this Stipulation may reflect a compromise of the parties' respective positions as to liability and/or amount of damages, and further, that a change in the nature of the injury or condition or in the items of compensation sought, is not grounds to modify or revise this agreement.

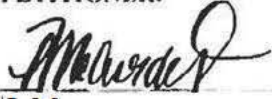
17. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the Tdap and/or influenza vaccine caused petitioner's alleged injury or any other injury or petitioner's current disabilities, or that petitioner suffered an injury contained in the Vaccine Injury Table.

18. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and/or assigns.

**END OF STIPULATION**

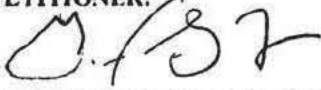
Respectfully submitted,

PETITIONER:



L.M.

ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR  
PETITIONER:



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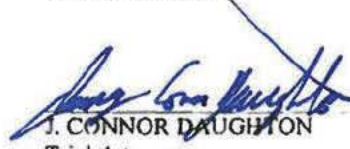
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES:

Jeffrey S. Digitally signed by  
Jeffrey S. Beach -S  
Date: 2026.01.21  
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Beach -S

for

CAPT GEORGE REED GRIMES, MD, MPH  
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Dated: February 11, 2026