

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 23-1751V

ERIK OSSENFORT,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: September 17, 2024

Leah VaSahnja Durant, Law Offices of Leah V. Durant, PLLC, Washington, DC, for Petitioner.

Margaret Armstrong, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On October 6, 2023, Erik Ossenfort (“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 he suffered from Guillain-Barré syndrome (“GBS”) as a result of receiving an influenza (“flu”) vaccination on November 18, 2020. Pet., ECF No. 1. Petitioner further alleges that he suffered the residual effects of his injury for more than six months. *Id.* The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On September 16, 2024, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c)

¹ Because this Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted 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 E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling 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.

² 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).

Report at 1, ECF No. 18. Specifically, Respondent indicated that Petitioner “has satisfied the criteria set forth in the Vaccine Injury Table and the Qualifications and Aids to Interpretation” for GBS following the intramuscular administration of a seasonal flu vaccination. *Id.* at 13-14 (citing 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a)(XIV)(D); 42 C.F.R. §100.3(c)(15)). Respondent agrees that Petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Vaccine Act. *Id.*

In view of Respondent’s position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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