

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 24-0576V

CORRECTED

ROBERT REIDINGER,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: March 24, 2026

Christopher Williams, Siri & Glimstad, LLP, New York, NY, for Petitioner.

Sarah Black Rifkin, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION ON ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS¹

On April 15, 2024, Robert Reidinger 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 he suffered a Table injury – shoulder injury related to vaccine administration as a result of his October 10, 2023, influenza vaccination. Petition, ECF No. 1. On July 8, 2025, I issued a decision awarding compensation to Petitioner based on the parties' stipulation. ECF No. 34.

¹Because this Decision 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 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.

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).

Petitioner then filed an *Interim* Motion for attorney's fees and costs, requesting an award of \$26,543.09, representing fees and costs incurred by Petitioner's former counsel, Andrew Donald Downing, Esq. See Interim Motion filed December 18, 2024, at ECF No. 23. Additionally, Petitioner filed a *Final* Motion for attorney's fees and costs, requesting an award of \$14,214.50, incurred by Petitioner's counsel of record, Christopher Williams, Esq. See Final Motion, filed July 17, 2025, at ECF No. 38. Furthermore, Petitioner filed a signed statement representing that no personal out-of-pocket expenses were incurred. ECF No. 38-4.

Respondent reacted to the interim and final motions, deferring resolution of the amounts to be awarded to my discretion. Response at 2-5, ECF Nos. 24 and 39. Petitioner filed no reply thereafter. Furthermore, Petitioner has provided supporting documentation for all claimed costs. ECF Nos. 23 at 31-53 and 38-3. Respondent offered no specific objection to the rates or amounts sought. I find the requested costs reasonable and hereby award them in full.

CONCLUSION

The Vaccine Act permits an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs for successful claimants. Section 15(e). Accordingly, I hereby GRANT Petitioner's Motion for attorney's fees and costs. **Petitioner is awarded attorney's fees and costs in the total amount of \$40,757.59³ as follows:**

- **A lump sum of \$14,214.50, representing reimbursement for attorney's fees and costs, to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel of record: Christopher Williams' IOLTA account for prompt disbursement; and**
- **A lump sum of \$26,543.09, representing reimbursement for attorney's fees and costs to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's former counsel: Andrew Donald Downing's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement.**

³ This amount is intended to cover all legal expenses incurred in this matter. This award encompasses all charges by the attorney against a client, "advanced costs" as well as fees for legal services rendered. Furthermore, § 15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) that would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. See *generally Beck v. Sec'y of Health & Human Servs.*, 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir.1991).

In the absence of a timely-filed motion for review (see Appendix B to the Rules of the Court), the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment in accordance with this decision.⁴

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

⁴ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties may expedite entry of judgment by filing a joint notice renouncing their right to seek review.