

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 24-1174V

ERIC RUFFO,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: February 4, 2025

John Robert Howie, Jr., Howie Law, PC, Dallas, TX, for Petitioner.

Nathaniel Trager, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On July 31, 2024, Eric Ruffo (“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 a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of receiving an influenza (“flu”) vaccination on October 14, 2022. 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 February 3, 2025, 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) Report at 1, ECF No. 17. Specifically, Respondent indicated that “[P]etitioner’s alleged injury is

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).

consistent with SIRVA as defined by the Vaccine Injury Table.” *Id.* at 6. Respondent does not dispute that Petitioner “has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act.” *Id.* at 6-7.

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