

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 24-1976V

NICHOLAS MONACO,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: December 2, 2025

*Christopher J. Webb, Black McLaren Jones Ryland & Griffee, Memphis, TN, for  
Petitioner.*

*Austin Joel Egan, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.*

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

On December 2, 2024, Nicholas Monaco 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 alleged that he suffered a Table shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as the result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccination on January 10, 2022. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On September 30, 2025, a Ruling on Entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for a SIRVA. On December 2, 2025, Respondent filed a Proffer on an award of compensation (“Proffer”). Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees

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<sup>1</sup> Because 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.

<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).

with the proffered award. *Id.* at 1-2. 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, **Petitioner is awarded a lump sum of \$65,000.00 (for pain and suffering) 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 Section 15(a). Proffer at 2.

The Clerk of 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**

NICHOLAS MONACO,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. 24-1976V
	)	Chief Special Master Corcoran
	)	ECF
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN	)	
SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION<sup>1</sup>**

On October 15, 2024, Nicholas Monaco (“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”), as amended, alleging that he suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) following an influenza (“flu”) vaccination he received on January 10, 2022. Petition at 1 (ECF No. 1). On September 25, 2025, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (“respondent”) filed his Rule 4(c) Report indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Act for a SIRVA Table injury. ECF No. 23. On September 30, 2025, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation. ECF No. 25.

**I. Items of Compensation**

Based on the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$65,000.00 in pain and suffering. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

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<sup>1</sup> This Proffer does not include attorneys’ fees and costs, which the parties intend to address after the Damages Decision is issued.

This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

**II. Form of the Award/Recommended Payment**

The parties recommend that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through one lump sum payment as described below and request that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following:<sup>2</sup>

A lump sum payment of **\$65,000.00** to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner, Nicolas Monaco.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Proof of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Assistant Attorney General

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Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

JULIA M. COLLISON  
Assistant Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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<sup>2</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 medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

/s/ AUSTIN J. EGAN

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