

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 25-974V

DONNA FREDERICK,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: May 27, 2026

Jonathan Joseph Svitak, Shannon Law Group, P.C., Woodridge, IL, for Petitioner.

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

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On June 10, 2025, Donna Frederick 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 she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as the result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccination received on October 24, 2023. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On March 27, 2026, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On May 26, 2026, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating that Petitioner should be awarded \$50,000.00 for pain and suffering. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

¹ 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.

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).

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

A lump sum payment of \$50,000.00, 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 Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

³ 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**

DONNA FREDERICK,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 25-974V (ECF)
Chief Special Master Corcoran

RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On June 10, 2025, Donna Frederick (“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”), alleging that she suffered “a Table Injury of SIRVA, resulting from an influenza [‘flu’] vaccination she received on October 24, 2023.”¹ Petition at 1.

On March 26, 2026, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (“respondent”) filed a 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. 19. On March 27, 2026, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 20.

PROFFER

I. Compensation

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$50,000.00 in pain and suffering damages. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees. This amount represents all

¹ A “SIRVA,” or shoulder injury related to vaccine administration, is defined in the Vaccine Injury Table at 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(c)(10).

elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$50,000.00, in the form of an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner, Donna Frederick.

Respectfully submitted,

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Assistant Attorney General

JONATHAN D. GUYNN
Acting Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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s/Sarah B. Rifkin
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DATE: May 26, 2026

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that today, May 26, 2026, a copy of the foregoing pleading was served by electronic mail to attorney Jonathan Svitak at jsvitak@shannonlawgroup.com.

s/ Sarah Black Rifkin