

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 10-705V

(E-Filed: May 27, 2014)

* * * * *

MELISSA RUSH and DENNIS PLACKO, *
natural parents of P.R.P., a minor, *

Petitioners,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

* * * * *

UNPUBLISHED

Special Master

Hamilton-Fieldman

Decision on Attorneys' Fees and Costs.

Thomas P. Gallagher, Thomas P. Gallagher, Esq., LLC., for Petitioners.

Lisa A. Watts, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION¹ (ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS)

In this case under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program,² the undersigned issued a decision on April 28, 2014. On May 27, 2014, the parties filed a stipulation concerning attorneys' fees and costs in this matter. The parties' stipulation requests a total payment of \$26, 227.92, representing total attorneys' fees and costs.

¹ The undersigned intends to post this unpublished decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction "of any information furnished by that party (1) that is trade secret or commercial or financial information and is privileged or confidential, or (2) that are medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy." Otherwise, "the entire" decision will be available to the public. *Id.*

² The applicable statutory provisions defining the program are found at 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 *et seq.* (2006).

Pursuant to General Order #9, Petitioners stated that they incurred \$1,426.98 in out-of-pocket litigation costs.

I find that this petition was brought in good faith and that there existed a reasonable basis for the claim. Therefore, an award for fees and costs is appropriate, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(b) and (e)(1). Further, the proposed amount seems reasonable and appropriate. **Accordingly, I hereby award the amount of \$24,800.94, in the form of a check made payable jointly to Petitioners and Petitioners' counsel, Thomas P. Gallagher, Esq. Additionally, I award the amount of \$1,426.98 in the form of a check made payable to Petitioners.**

In the absence of a timely-filed motion for review filed pursuant to Appendix B of the Rules of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the clerk of the court shall enter judgment in accordance herewith.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Lisa D. Hamilton-Fieldman
Lisa D. Hamilton-Fieldman
Special Master