

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 13-375V

Filed: July 20, 2015

Not for Publication

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JOSEPH A. GOMES, M.D.,

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Petitioner,

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Attorneys' fees and costs decision based on  
stipulation of fact

v.

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

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Respondent.

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Diana L. Stadelnikas Sedar, Sarasota, FL, for petitioner.

Darryl R. Wishard, Washington, DC, for respondent.

**MILLMAN, Special Master**

### **DECISION AWARDING ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS<sup>1</sup>**

On July 20, 2015, the parties filed a stipulation of fact in which they agreed on an appropriate amount for attorneys' fees and costs in this case. In accordance with General Order #9, petitioner filed a statement on July 20, 2015, asserting that he did not incur any costs in pursuit of his petition.

Petitioner submitted his request for attorneys' fees and costs to respondent. During informal discussions, respondent raised objections to certain aspects of petitioner's application.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the special master's action in this case, the special master intends to post this unpublished decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims's website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002). Vaccine Rule 18(b) states that all decisions of the special masters will be made available to the public unless they contain trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged and confidential, or medical or similar information whose disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. When such a decision is filed, petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact such information prior to the document's disclosure. If the special master, upon review, agrees that the identified material fits within the banned categories listed above, the special master shall redact such material from public access.

Based on these objections, petitioner amends his application for attorneys' fees and costs to \$54,000.00. Respondent does not object to this amount. The undersigned finds this amount to be reasonable. Accordingly, the court awards **\$54,000.00**, representing reimbursement for attorneys' fees and costs. The award shall be in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner and Maglio, Christopher & Toale, P.A. for **\$54,000.00**.

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment herewith.<sup>2</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: July 20, 2015

s/ Laura D. Millman  
Laura D. Millman  
Special Master

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<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by each party, either separately or jointly, filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review.