

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 14-1206V

Filed: January 3, 2018

* * * * *		
JEANNE BAILEY,	*	UNPUBLISHED
	*	
Petitioner,	*	
v.	*	Decision on Attorneys' Fees and Costs;
	*	Respondent Does Not Object.
SECRETARY OF HEALTH	*	
AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
	*	
Respondent.	*	
* * * * *		

*Kenneth Lumb, Esq.*, Corboy & Demetrio, P.C., Chicago, IL, for petitioner.  
*Christine Becer, Esq.*, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

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

**Roth**, Special Master:

On December 16, 2014, Jeanne Bailey ("Ms. Bailey," or "petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.<sup>2</sup> Petitioner alleges that she developed a shoulder injury as a result of receiving an influenza vaccination on December 17, 2012. *See* Petition ("Pet."), ECF No. 1. On May 31, 2017, the undersigned issued a Decision awarding compensation to petitioner based on the parties' stipulations. *See* Decision, ECF No. 45.

On December 11, 2017, petitioner filed a Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Costs. Motion for Fees, ECF No. 49. Petitioner requests attorneys' fees in the amount of \$18,029.75, and

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in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 (2012)). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, that satisfies the criteria in 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, I will delete 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 "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

attorneys' costs in the amount of \$8,304.09, for a total amount of \$26,333.84.<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 1. In accordance with General Order #9, petitioner's counsel represents that petitioner did not incur any out-of-pocket expenses. *Id.* at 2.

On December 26, 2017, respondent filed a response to petitioners' Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Costs. Response, ECF No. 50. Respondent provided no specific objection to the amount requested or hours worked, but instead, "respectfully recommend[ed] that the Special Master exercise her discretion and determine a reasonable award for attorneys' fees and costs." *Id.* at 3. Petitioner filed a reply on January 2, 2018, reiterating her attorneys' fees request. Reply, ECF No. 51.

The Vaccine Act permits an award of "reasonable attorneys' fees" and "other costs." § 15(e)(1). Based on the reasonableness of petitioner's request, the undersigned GRANTS petitioner's motion for attorneys' fees and costs.

Accordingly, the undersigned **awards the total of \$26,333.84**,<sup>4</sup> representing reimbursement for attorneys' fees in the amount of \$18,029.75 and costs in the amount of \$8,304.09, in the form of a check made payable jointly to petitioners and petitioners' counsel, Kenneth Lumb, Esq. The Clerk of the Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this Decision.<sup>5</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/ Mindy Michaels Roth**  
Mindy Michaels Roth  
Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> I have made no determination as to appropriate hourly rates in this matter; I merely conclude that the total sums requested seem reasonable and appropriate.

<sup>4</sup> This amount is intended to cover all legal expenses incurred in this matter. This award encompasses all charges by the attorney against a client, "advanced costs" as well as fees for legal services rendered. Furthermore, § 15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) that would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. *See generally Beck v. Sec'y of Health & Human Servs.*, 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review.