

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-1021V

Filed: February 24, 2016

Unpublished

CHRISTINA L. MURRAY,

Petitioner,

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Influenza ("flu") Vaccine; Shoulder Injury
Related to Vaccine Administration;
("SIRVA") Special Processing Unit
("SPU")

*Stephen Joseph Mathieu, Stephen J. Mathieu Attorney, Beaverton, OR, for petitioner.
Justine Elizabeth Walters, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On September 14, 2015, Christina L. Murray ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the "Vaccine Act" or "Program"). Petitioner alleged that she developed a rotator cuff tear and other shoulder injuries as a result of receiving a seasonal influenza ("flu") vaccine on September 19, 2013. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit ("SPU") of the Office of Special Masters.

On January 22, 2016, the undersigned issued a ruling on entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation for shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"). On February 24, 2016, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating petitioner should be awarded \$125,000.00. Proffer at 2. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award.

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012)(Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). 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, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned 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 "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$125,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Christina L. Murray.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey
Nora Beth Dorsey
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**

CHRISTINA L. MURRAY,)	
)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	No. 15-1021V
v.)	Chief Special Master Dorsey
)	SPU
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND)	ECF
HUMAN SERVICES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On September 14, 2015, petitioner, Christina L. Murray, filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (“Vaccine Act”), alleging that she developed a rotator cuff tear and other shoulder injuries as a result of receiving a seasonal influenza (“flu”) vaccine on September 19, 2013. On January 20, 2016, respondent filed her Rule 4(c) Report stating that petitioner’s shoulder injury is consistent with a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) and conceding that her SIRVA is compensable under the Vaccine Act. Accordingly, on January 22, 2016, Chief Special Master Dorsey issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner is entitled to compensation for SIRVA. For the purposes of this proffer, the term “vaccine-related” is as described in Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report filed on January 20, 2016.

I. Items of Compensation

Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$125,000.00, which represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).¹ Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

The parties recommend that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$125,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Petitioner agrees.

Respectfully submitted,

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RUPA BHATTACHARYYA
Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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s/ Justine Walters
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DATE: February 23, 2016

¹ 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.