

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-254V

Filed: June 24, 2016

UNPUBLISHED

KELLY CARTER,

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Petitioner,

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH

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AND HUMAN SERVICES,

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Respondent.

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Jeffrey S. Pop, Jeffrey S. Pop, Attorney at Law, Beverly Hills, CA, for petitioner.

Debra A. Filteau Begley, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC for respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On February 23, 2016, Kelly Carter (“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 alleges that she “developed severe pain in her right shoulder and right arm” caused by the influenza vaccination she received on November 4, 2014. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 9, 2016, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation. On June 23, 2016, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$80,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.*

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website,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 \$80,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Kelly Carter.** 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**

KELLY CARTER,

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Petitioner,

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No. 16-254V

CHIEF SPECIAL MASTER

v.

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NORA BETH DORSEY

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**SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,**

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Respondent.

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RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

I. Items of Compensation

For purposes of this proffer, the term "vaccine-related" is as described in Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report, filed on May 9, 2016, conceding entitlement in this case. Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$80,000.00. This represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) for her vaccine-related injury.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 described below, and request that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following:

A lump sum payment of \$80,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Kelly Carter. This amounts accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner would be entitled.

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.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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Dated: June 23, 2016