

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-0851V

Filed: May 25, 2017

Unpublished

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CARRIE BRAZELTON,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Joint Stipulation on Damages;  
Influenza ("Flu") Vaccine; Shoulder  
Injury Related to Vaccine Administration  
("SIRVA"); Special Processing Unit  
("SPU")

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*Amber D. Wilson, Maglio Christopher and Toale, PA, Washington, DC, for petitioner.  
Voris E. Johnson, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **DECISION ON JOINT STIPULATION<sup>1</sup>**

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On July 20, 2016, Carrie Brazelton ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleged that as a result of receiving the influenza ("flu") vaccine on September 30, 2015, she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"). The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit ("SPU") of the Office of Special Masters.

On September 23, 2016, the undersigned issued a ruling on entitlement, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On May 24, 2017, the parties filed the attached joint stipulation on damages, stating that a decision should be entered awarding petitioner compensation in the amount of \$100,000.00. Stip. at ¶ 9. The

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website,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.

<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).

undersigned finds the stipulation reasonable and adopts it as the decision of the Court in awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Stipulation, **the undersigned awards** the following compensation:

**A lump sum of \$100,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Carrie Brazelton.** Stip. at ¶ 9. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). *Id.*

The undersigned approves the requested amount for petitioner's compensation. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**  
Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> 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.

CARRIE BRAZELTON,  
  
Petitioner,  
  
v.  
  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
  
Respondent.

No. 16-851V (**ECF**)  
Chief Special Master Dorsey

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Carrie Brazelton (“petitioner”) filed a petition for vaccine compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 to -34 (the “Vaccine Program”). The petition seeks compensation for injuries allegedly sustained following petitioner’s receipt of the influenza (“flu”) vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the “Table”), 42 C.F.R. §100.3(a).
2. Petitioner received a flu vaccine in her left deltoid on September 30, 2015.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA). This includes, but is not limited to, petitioner’s bursitis, tendinitis, and impingement in her left shoulder.
5. Petitioner experienced the residual effects of her injury for more than six months.
6. There is not a preponderance of evidence demonstrating that petitioner’s condition is due to a factor unrelated to vaccination.

7. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of her condition.

8. Accordingly, petitioner is entitled to compensation under the terms of the Vaccine Act for her SIRVA. Therefore, a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in Paragraph 9 of this stipulation.

9. As soon as practicable after an entry of judgment reflecting a decision consistent with the terms of this Stipulation, and after petitioner has filed an election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services will issue the following vaccine compensation payment:

A lump sum of \$100,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Carrie Brazelton. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

10. As soon as practicable after the entry of judgment on entitlement in this case, and after petitioner has filed both a proper and timely election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), and an application, the parties will submit to further proceedings before the special master to award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.

11. Petitioner and her attorney represent that compensation to be provided pursuant to this Stipulation is not for any items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), to the extent that payment has been made or can reasonably be expected to be made under any State compensation programs, insurance policies, Federal or State health benefits programs (other than Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.), or by entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

12. Payment made pursuant to paragraph 9 and any amounts awarded pursuant to

paragraph 10 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

13. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs, the money provided pursuant to this Stipulation will be used solely for the benefit of petitioner, as contemplated by a strict construction of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) and (d), and subject to the conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g) and (h).

14. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 9 and 10, petitioner, in her individual capacity, and on behalf of herself, her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever irrevocably and unconditionally release, acquit and discharge the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the United States of America from any and all actions or causes of action (including agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature) that have been brought, could have been brought, or could be timely brought in the Court of Federal Claims, under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 et seq., on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected personal injuries to, or death of, petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the flu vaccine administered on September 30, 2015, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about July 20, 2016, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 16-851V.

15. If petitioner should die prior to entry of judgment, this agreement shall be voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.

16. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, or if the Court of Federal Claims fails to enter judgment in conformity with a decision that is in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, then the parties'

settlement and this Stipulation shall be voidable at the sole discretion of either party.

17. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete negotiated settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended, except as otherwise noted in paragraph 10 above. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to. The parties further agree and understand that the award described in this Stipulation may reflect a compromise of the parties' respective positions as to liability and/or amount of damages, and further, that a change in the nature of the injury or condition or in the items of compensation sought, is not grounds to modify or revise this agreement.

18. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, successors and/or assigns.

END OF STIPULATION

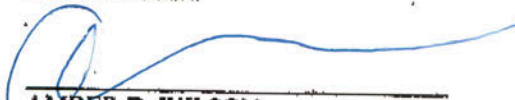
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Respectfully submitted,

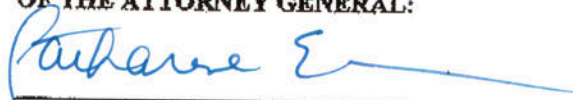
PETITIONER:

  
CARRIE BRAZELTON

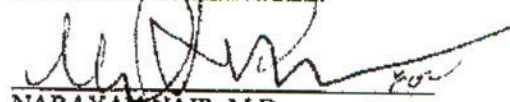
ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR  
PETITIONER:

  
AMBER D. WILSON  
Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA  
1775 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Suite 225  
Washington, DC 20006  
(888) 952-5242


AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

  
CATHARINE E. REEVES  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 146  
Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044-0146

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES:

  
NARAYANNAIR, M.D.  
Director, Division of Injury  
Compensation Programs (DICP)  
Healthcare Systems Bureau  
U.S. Department of Health  
and Human Services  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Parklawn Building, Mail Stop 08N146B  
Rockville, MD 20857

ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR  
RESPONDENT:

  
VORIS E. JOHNSON, JR.  
Senior Trial Attorney  
Torts Branch  
Civil Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 146  
Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044-0146  
(202) 616-4136

Dated: 5/24/17