

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 18-804V

Filed: June 19, 2019

UNPUBLISHED

CHRISTIAN MATTHEW HAYES,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Varicella Vaccine; Varicella Vaccine-
Strain Viral Reactivation

Samantha P. Travis, Ogle Worm & Travis, PLLP, Kalispell, MT, for petitioner.

Colleen Clemons Hartley, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On June 6, 2018, 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”). Petitioner alleges that as a result of receiving a varicella vaccine on July 25, 2016, he suffered an active disseminated vaccine-strain varicella infection, with subsequent permanent scarring. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 14, 2019, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation. On June 14, 2019, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$75,000.00. Proffer at 2. In the

¹ The undersigned intends to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website. **This means the decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** 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. Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, undersigned is required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website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).

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).

Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* 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 \$75,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Christian Matthew Hayes.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 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.

CHRISTIAN MATTHEW HAYES,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	No. 18-804V
)	Chief Special Master Dorsey
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN)	ECF
SERVICES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

On June 6, 2018, Christian Matthew Hayes (“petitioner”) filed a petition for vaccine injury compensation alleging that he suffered active disseminated vaccine-strain varicella infection, with subsequent permanent scarring. On May 9, 2019, respondent conceded that entitlement to compensation was appropriate under the terms of the Vaccine Act. On May 14, 2019, the Chief Special Master Dorsey issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding that petitioner was entitled to compensation. The case is now in damages.

Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$75,000.00, which represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner be made through a

lump sum payment of \$75,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner.¹ Petitioner agrees.

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

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH H. HUNT
Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D’ALESSIO
Acting Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES
Deputy Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

ALEXIS B. BABCOCK
Assistant Director
Torts Branch, Civil Division

/s/ Colleen C. Hartley
COLLEEN C. HARTLEY
Trial Attorney
Torts Branch, Civil Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 146
Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-0146
Phone: (202) 616-3644
Fax: (202) 353-2988

DATED: June 14, 2019

¹ Should petitioner die prior to the entry of judgment, respondent reserves the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future pain and suffering, and future lost wages.