

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 05-793V  
Filed: August 21, 2008

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

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NATHALIE RUSSO, \*

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\*

Petitioner, \*

\*

Stipulation; HepB; Transverse Myelitis

\*

\*

v. \*

\*

SECRETARY OF HEALTH \*  
AND HUMAN SERVICES, \*

\*

\*

Respondent. \*

\*

\*\*\*\*\*

### DECISION<sup>1</sup>

On August 18, 2008, the parties to the above-captioned case filed a Stipulation memorializing their agreement as to the appropriate amount of compensation in this case. Petitioner alleged that Nathalie Russo suffered from transverse myelitis as a result of her hepatitis B vaccine administered on December 29, 2003. Respondent denies that petitioner's injury was caused-in-fact by her HepB immunization. Nonetheless, the parties agreed informally to resolve this matter.

The court hereby **adopts** the parties' said Stipulation, attached hereto, and awards compensation in the amount and on the terms set forth therein. Specifically, petitioner is awarded a lump sum of \$500,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. See Stipulation, para. 8, filed August 18, 2008. This amount represents compensation for damages that are available under 42 U.S.C. §300aa-15(a). The Clerk of the Court is directed to enter

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<sup>1</sup>The undersigned intends to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims's website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002). As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction "of any information furnished by that party (1) that is trade secret or commercial or financial information and is privileged or confidential, or (2) that are medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy." Vaccine Rule 18(b). Otherwise, "the entire" decision will be available to the public. Id.

judgment accordingly.<sup>2</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/ Gary J. Golkiewicz  
Gary J. Golkiewicz  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>2</sup>Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties can expedite entry of judgment by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review by a United States Court of Federal Claims judge.

ORIGINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

FILED  
AUG 18 2008  
OSM  
U.S. COURT OF  
FEDERAL CLAIMS

NATHALIE RUSSO,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. 05-793V
	)	Chief Special Master
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN	)	Golkiewicz
SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	
	)	

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. 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 related to petitioner's receipt of the Hepatitis B ("Hep B") vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table"), 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-14(a) (VIII).
2. Petitioner received a Hep B immunization on December 29, 2003.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that she suffered from an injury that was caused in fact by her Hep B immunizations.
5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of her

condition.

6. Respondent denies that petitioner's injury was caused in fact by her Hep B immunization.

7. Maintaining their above-stated positions, the parties nevertheless now agree that the issues between them shall be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 8 of this Stipulation.

8. 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 \$500,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all elements of compensation that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

9. 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.

10. Payments made pursuant to paragraph 8 and any amount awarded pursuant to paragraph 9 of this Stipulation will be made

in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

11. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorney's 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).

12. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, on behalf of herself and her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever and fully expressly release, acquit and discharge the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the United States of America from any and all actions, causes of action, agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown personal injuries to or death of petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the Hep B vaccination administered on December 29, 2003, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about July 22, 2005, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 05-793V.

13. If petitioner should die prior to receiving the payment described in paragraph 8, this agreement shall be considered

voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.

14. 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 null and void at the sole discretion of either party.

15. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended. 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.

16. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's successors and assigns.

END OF STIPULATION