

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

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SAUNDRA C. ROMANO, \*

Petitioner, \*

No. 09-447V  
Special Master Christian J. Moran

v. \*

SECRETARY OF HEALTH \*

AND HUMAN SERVICES, \*

Respondent. \*

Filed: April 28, 2010  
Stipulation; influenza (flu) vaccine;  
transverse myelitis

\*\*\*\*\*

UNPUBLISHED DECISION<sup>1</sup>

Lisa A. Roquemore, Esq., Broker & Associates, P.C., Irvine, California, for Petitioner;  
Linda S. Renzi, Esq., U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

On April 22, 2010, the parties filed a joint stipulation concerning the petition for compensation filed by Sandra C. Romano, which was filed on July 6, 2009. In her petition, Ms. Romano alleged that the influenza (“flu”) vaccine, which is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table, 42 C.F.R. §100.3(a), and which she received on October 8, 2007, caused her to suffer transverse myelitis.

Respondent denies that Ms. Romano suffered any injury as a result of the vaccination she received on October 8, 2007, and denies that her current condition and alleged residual effects are sequelae of a vaccine-related injury. Nevertheless, the parties agree to the joint stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A. The undersigned finds said stipulation reasonable and adopts it as the decision of the Court in awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the special master's action in this case, the special master intends to post it on the United States Court of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).

All decisions of the special masters will be made available to the public unless they contain trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged and confidential, or medical or similar information whose disclosure would clearly be an unwarranted invasion of privacy. When such a decision or designated substantive order is filed, the person submitting the information has 14 days to identify and to move to delete such information before the document’s disclosure. If the special master agrees that the identified material fits within the categories listed above, the special master shall redact such material from public access. 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B); Vaccine Rule 18(b).

Damages awarded in that stipulation include:

**A lump sum payment of \$405,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner.**  
This amount represents compensation for all damages available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC, Appendix B, the clerk is directed to enter judgment in case 09-447V according to this decision and the attached stipulation.

Any questions may be directed to Francina Segbefia at (202) 357-6358.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

S/ Christian J. Moran

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Christian J. Moran  
Special Master

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

SAUNDRA C. ROMANO,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. 09-447V
	)	Special Master Moran
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN	)	
SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Petitioner, Sandra C. Romano, 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 her receipt of an influenza ("flu") vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table"), 42 U.S.C. § 100.3 (a).
2. Petitioner received a flu vaccination on October 8, 2007.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that she suffered transverse myelitis as a result of her flu vaccination. Petitioner further alleges that she experienced the residual effects of this injury for more than six months.
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 suffered any injury as a result of the vaccination she received on October 8, 2007, and denies that her current condition and alleged residual effects are sequelae of a vaccine-related injury.

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:

A lump sum of \$405,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Sandra C. Romano. This amount represents compensation for all damages 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. The payment made pursuant to paragraph 8 and any amounts 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 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).

12. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, in her individual capacity and on behalf of 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 resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, a flu vaccination administered on October 8, 2007, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about July 6, 2009, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 09-447V.

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.

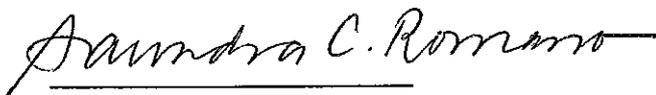
15. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended, except as otherwise noted in paragraph 9 above. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to.

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

END OF STIPULATION

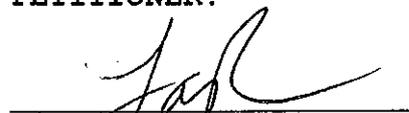
Respectfully submitted,

**PETITIONER:**



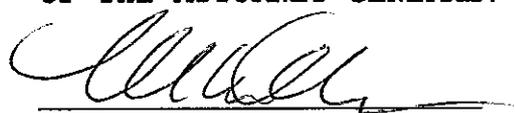
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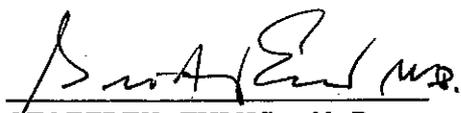
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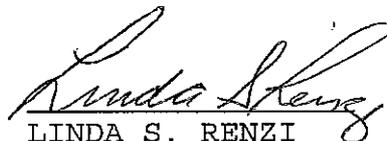
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Dated: April 22, 2010