

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 99-425V
Filed: June 28, 2010**

LINDA LENAHAN,	*	
	*	
Petitioner,	*	Decision on Joint Stipulation;
v.	*	Hepatitis B Vaccine; Anti-
	*	Phospholipid Syndrome;
SECRETARY OF HEALTH	*	Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
	*	
Respondent.	*	
	*	

DECISION ON JOINT STIPULATION¹

Vowell, Special Master:

Linda Lenahan filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program² on July 2, 1999. Petitioner alleges a hepatitis B vaccination she received on July 11, 1991 significantly aggravated her Anti-Phospholipid Syndrome and resulted in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. See Amended Petition, filed Oct. 23, 2006, at ¶¶ 2-3. Respondent denies that the hepatitis B vaccination caused-in-fact a significant aggravation of a pre-existing condition, and respondent denies that the hepatitis B vaccination caused petitioner's current disabilities. Stipulation, filed June 24, 2010, at ¶ 6.

Nevertheless, the parties have agreed to settle the case. On June 24, 2010, the parties filed a joint stipulation agreeing to settle this case and describing the settlement terms. Respondent agreed to pay petitioner:

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will delete 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 (2006).

A lump sum payment of **\$1,000,000.00** in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Linda Lenahan. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

The special master adopts the parties' stipulation attached hereto, and awards compensation in the amount and on the terms set forth therein. 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.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Denise K. Vowell
Denise K. Vowell
Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review.

for damages on her behalf as a result of her condition.

6. Respondent denies that the Hepatitis B immunization caused-in-fact a significant aggravation of a pre-existing condition, and respondent denies that the Hepatitis B immunization caused petitioner's current disabilities.

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 \$1,000,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. 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. Petitioner and her attorney represent that they have identified to respondent all known sources of payment for items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), including 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 entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

11. Payments 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.

12. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees, litigation costs, and past unreimbursable expenses, 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).

13. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, in her individual capacity, on behalf of herself and her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever irrevocably and unconditionally release, acquit and discharge the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services 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. § 300 aa-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 Hepatitis B vaccination administered on July 11, 1991, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about July 2, 1999, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 99-425V.

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

15. 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.

16. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete negotiated 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. 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.

17. Petitioner hereby authorizes the respondent to disclose documents filed by petitioner in this case consistent with the Privacy Act and the routine uses described in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program System of Records, No. 09-15-0056.

18. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the Hepatitis B vaccine significantly aggravated a pre-existing condition or caused petitioner's current disabilities.

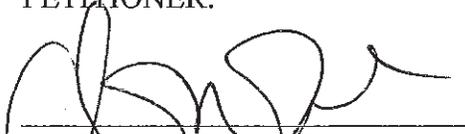
19. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, executors, administrators, successors; and/or assigns.

Respectfully submitted,

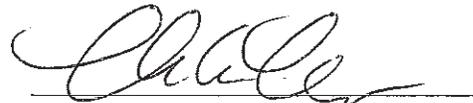
PETITIONER:

Linda M. Lenahan, MD
LINDA LENAHAN

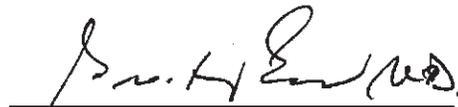
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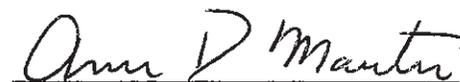
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Dated: June 24, 2010