

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 02-1441V
Filed: August 30, 2010**

JOSHUA CARTER,	*	
	*	
Petitioner,	*	
v.	*	Attorney Fees and Costs
	*	
SECRETARY OF HEALTH	*	
AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
	*	
Respondent.	*	
	*	

DECISION ON ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS¹

Vowell, Special Master:

In this case under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program,² I issued a [65] decision on August 17, 2010, awarding compensation based on a stipulation of the parties. On August 27, 2010, petitioner filed his [69] application for attorney fees and costs in this matter.³ That filing represented that respondent's counsel had reviewed the application in draft form and discussed objections to the application with petitioner's counsel. The amounts requested in the filing represent the results of those discussions. Respondent does not object to the amounts requested in the filed application.

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in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 The applicable statutory provisions defining the program are found at 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 *et seq.* (2006).

³ Petitioner also filed a statement on August 27, 2010 pursuant to General Order #9 delineating costs borne by petitioner and costs borne by his counsel.

I find that this petition was brought in good faith and that there existed a reasonable basis for the claim. Therefore, an award for fees and costs is appropriate, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(b) and (e)(1). Further, the proposed amount seems reasonable and appropriate. **Accordingly, I hereby award the total \$30,517.58⁴ as follows:**

- **a lump sum of \$30,262.08 in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner, Joshua Carter, and petitioner’s counsel, Conway, Homer & Chin-Caplan, PC, for petitioner’s attorney fees and costs; and**
- **a lump sum of \$255.50 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Joshua Carter, for his litigation costs.**

In the absence of a timely-filed motion for review filed pursuant to Appendix B of the Rules of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the clerk of the court shall enter judgment in accordance herewith.⁵

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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

⁴ This amount is intended to cover all legal expenses incurred in this matter. This award encompasses all charges by the attorney against a client, “advanced costs” as well as fees for legal services rendered. Furthermore, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) that would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. See *generally Beck v. Sec’y, HHS*, 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir.1991).

⁵ Entry of judgment can be expedited by each party’s filing of a notice renouncing the right to seek review. See Vaccine Rule 11(a).