In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 23-1682V

BRUCE W. BLAIS, JR., Petitioner, v. SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Respondent.	Chief Special Master Corcoran Filed: May 5, 2025

Christopher Williams, Siri & Glimstad, LLP, New York, NY, for Petitioner.

Lauren Kells, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION ON DAMAGES[1]

On September 29, 2023, Bruce W. Blais, Jr. 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 alleged that he suffered the Vaccine Injury Table injury of Guillain-Barré syndrome ("GBS") that developed following an influenza ("flu") vaccine administered on January 4, 2022. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 5, 2025, Respondent filed a combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer, in which he **concedes** that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer at 1, 8. That same day, I issued a Ruling on Entitlement.

[1] Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **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, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact 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 section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

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Respondent represents that Petitioner agrees to his proffer on an award of compensation. Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer at 9. Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer,[3] **Petitioner is awarded a lump sum of $191,179.92 (representative of $191,000.00 for pain and suffering, and $179.92 representative of out-of-pocket medical and related expenses) to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner.** Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer at 9. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a). *Id.*

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.[4]

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

[3] Because the combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer contains information regarding Petitioner's personal medical history, which is not generally included in a Proffer when separately filed, it is not attached hereto.

[4] 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.