# In the United States Court of Federal Claims Office of Special Masters

No. 09-552V Filed: January 16, 2013

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GISELE BEAUCHAMP, as personal	*	NOT TO BE PUBLISHED
representative of the Estate of ROGER	*	
BÉAUCHAMP,	*	Special Master Zane
	*	-
Petitioner,	*	Stipulation; Flu Vaccine;
	*	Guillain-Barre Syndrome ("GBS");
V.	*	Transverse Myelitis ("TM"); Death
	*	
	*	
SECRETARY OF HEALTH	*	
AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
	*	
Respondent.	*	
	*	
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Diana Lynn Stadelnikas, Maglio Christopher and Toale, PA, Sarasota, FL, for Petitioner Lisa Ann Watts, United States Dep't of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent

# **UNPUBLISHED DECISION<sup>1</sup>**

On January 11, 2013, the parties in the above-captioned case filed a Stipulation memorializing their agreement as to the appropriate amount of compensation in this case. Petitioner, as the legal representative of the estate of decedent, Roger Beauchamp, alleged that decedent, had a pre-existing case of Guillain-Barre syndrome ("GBS"), which was significantly aggravated by his receipt of the influenza vaccine ("flu vaccine"), causing him additional neurologic injuries, to include transverse myelitis ("TM"). Decedent, Mr. Beauchamp received the flu vaccine, which is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table, 42 C.F.R § 100.3(a), on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The special master intends to post this decision on the website of the United States Court of Federal Claims 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. As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days to file a motion requesting the redaction from this decision of any such alleged material. In the absence of a timely request, which includes a proposed redacted decision, the entire document will be made publicly available.

December 5, 2006. Petitioner also alleges that the additional injuries caused by the receipt of the flu vaccine were substantial factors of Roger Beauchamp's death.

Petitioner represents that there have been no prior awards or settlement of a civil action for these damages. Petitioner seeks compensation related to decedent's injuries pursuant to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10 to 34.

Respondent denies that the flu vaccine significantly aggravated Roger Beauchamp's GBS, and/or was a substantial factor in the cause of his death. Nonetheless, the parties have agreed informally to resolve this matter. Stipulation, Appendix A hereto.

The undersigned hereby ADOPTS the parties' said Stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A, and awards compensation in the amount and on the terms set forth therein. Specifically, Petitioner is awarded:

a lump sum of \$200,000.00, in the form of a check payable to Gisele Beauchamp, as personal representative of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

The Court thanks the parties for their cooperative efforts in resolving this matter. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC, Appendix B, the Clerk is directed to enter judgment accordingly.<sup>2</sup>

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

<u>s/Daria J. Zane</u> Daria J. Zane Special Master

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This document constitutes a final "decision" in this case pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(3)(A). Unless a motion for review of this decision is filed within 30 days, the Clerk of the Court shall enter judgment in accordance with this decision. 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.

### IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

#### OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

GISELE BEAUCHAMP, as personal representative of the Estate of POCEP, PEAUCUAMP	) <u>ECF</u>
ROGER BEAUCHAMP,	)
Petitioner,	<ul> <li>) No. 09-552V</li> <li>) Special Master</li> </ul>
ν.	) Daria J. Zane
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,	)
	)
Respondent.	)

#### **STIPULATION**

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Roger Beauchamp ("Mr. Beauchamp") filed a petition for vaccine compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10 to 34 (the "Vaccine Program"), on August 21, 2009. Mr. Beauchamp died on July 31, 2010. Mr. Beauchamp's spouse and Personal Representative of his estate, Gisele Beauchamp, was substituted as petitioner in this action. On October 12, 2011, petitioner filed an Amended Petition seeking compensation for injuries and death allegedly related to Mr. Beauchamp's receipt of an influenza ("flu") vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table"), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a).

2. Mr. Beauchamp received the flu vaccine on December 5, 2006.

3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.

4. Petitioner alleges that Mr. Beauchamp's pre-existing Guillain-Barré syndrome ("GBS") was significantly aggravated by his receipt of the flu vaccine, causing him additional neurologic injuries, to include transverse myelitis ("TM"). Petitioner further contends that the additional injuries allegedly caused-in-fact by Mr. Beauchamp's receipt of the flu vaccine were substantial factors in the cause of his death.

5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages on behalf of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp as a result of Mr. Beauchamp's injury and/or death.

6. Respondent denies that the flu vaccine significantly aggravated Mr. Beauchamp's GBS, and/or was a substantial factor in the cause of his death.

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  $\underline{\$200,000.00}$  in the form of a check payable to petitioner as Personal Representative of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp. 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.

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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 prepaid 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. Petitioner represents that she has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp under the laws of the State of Florida, and has filed proof of appointment in this case. If petitioner is not authorized by a court of competent jurisdiction to serve as Personal Representative of Roger Beauchamp's estate at the time a payment pursuant to this Stipulation is to be made, any such payment shall be paid to the party or parties appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction to serve as Personal Representative of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp upon submission of written documentation of such appointment to the Secretary.

13. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, in her individual capacity, and as the Personal Representative of Mr. Beauchamp's estate, on behalf of Mr. Beauchamp's 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

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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 Roger Beauchamp resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the flu vaccine administered to Mr. Beauchamp on December 5, 2006, as alleged in a Petition filed on August 21, 2009, and an Amended Petition filed on October 12, 2011, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 09-552V.

14. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation or if the United States 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.

15. 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 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.

16. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the flu vaccine caused Mr. Beauchamp's alleged injuries, to include TM, and/or substantially contributed to his death.

17. All rights and obligations of petitioner in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Roger Beauchamp shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and/or assigns.

## END OF STIPULATION

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Respectfully submitted,

**PETITIONER:** 

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ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR PETITIONER:

DIANA L. STADELNIKAS, ESQUIRE Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA 1605 Main Street, Ste. 710 Sarasota, FL 34236 Tel: (941) 95205242

#### AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:

VITO CASERTA, M.D., M.P.H. Acting Director, Division of Vaccine Injury Compensation (DVIC) Director, Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program (CICP) Healthcare Systems Bureau U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 5600 Fishers Lane Parklawn Building, Stop 11C-26 Rockville, MD 20857

DATE:

#### AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

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VINCENT J./MATANOSKI Deputy Director Torts Branch Civil Division U. S. Department of Justice P. O. Box 146 Benjamin Franklin Station Washington, DC 20044-0146

ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR RESPONDENT:

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