



# Report from the Department of Justice

**December 29, 2025**

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*Deputy Director, Torts Branch*

# Statistics

**Reporting Period: 6/16/2024 – 11/30/2025**

**Total Vaccine Petitions Filed in the United States  
Court of Federal Claims this Reporting Period: 1,869**

- **Involving Minors: 111 (~6%)**
- **Involving Adults: 1,758 (~94%)**

# Statistics

**Reporting Period: 6/16/2024 – 11/30/2025**

**Total Petitions Adjudicated this Reporting Period: 1,713**

- **Cases Compensated: 1,452 (~85%)**
  - **Cases conceded by HHS: 592\***
    - **Decisions awarding Damages: 60**
    - **Decisions adopting Proffer: 507**
    - **Decisions adopting Settlement: 25**
  - **Cases not conceded by HHS: 860**
    - **Decisions awarding Damages: 80**
    - **Decisions adopting Proffer: 89**
    - **Decisions adopting Settlement: 691**
- **Cases Not Compensated/Dismissed: 261**

# Statistics

**Reporting Period: 6/16/2024 – 11/30/2025**

**Total Petitions Voluntarily Withdrawn this Reporting Period: 95**

- No judgments are issued in withdrawn cases

# Negotiated Settlements\*

**Reporting Period: 6/16/24 – 11/30/25**

- **Total Settlements Adjudicated this Reporting Period: 710**
  - **Total Processing Time Range: 199 to 3,680 days (~6.5 months – 10 years)**
  - **Average Processing Time: 945 days (~ 2 years, 7 months)**
  - **Median Processing Time: 777 days (~2 years, 2 months)**

\*Terms of compensated settlements are negotiated by the parties and memorialized by Stipulation

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (15):

- *Capri v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Dismissed**
- *Cerrone v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Doles v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Reversed & Remanded**
- *Falzon v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Hampton v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Dismissed**
- *Henkel v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *J.S. v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Kalajdzic v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Larson v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Osenbach v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Sheller v. HHS* (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): **Vacated & Remanded**
- *Simmons v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Dismissed**
- *Vinesar v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Walters v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *White v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**

All decisions are available on the CAFC's website: <https://cafc.uscourts.gov/>

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Respondent (2):

- *Hinton v. HHS* (Entitlement): **Affirmed**
- *Stratton v. HHS* (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): **Vacated & Remanded**



# Appeals: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

## Pending Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (14):

- **Anklam v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Chitlik v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Doe v. HHS** (Damages)
- **Dotson v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Gamboa-Avila v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Hazelhurst v. HHS** (Post-Judgment Relief)
- **Herms v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **J.A.C. v. HHS** (Post-Judgment Relief)
- **McGrath v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Moyler v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Munoz v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Sparrow v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Townsend v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **White v. HHS** (Entitlement)

### Appeals by Respondent (0):

- *None currently*

\*Case names in **yellow** are new this reporting period



# Appeals: U.S. Court of Federal Claims

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (51):

- **Apuzzo v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Barrios v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Brandt v. HHS** (Entitlement): Remanded
- **Byrd v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Capri v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Castelein v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): Affirmed-in-Part & Vacated-in-Part
- **Chitlik v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Curry v. HHS** (Entitlement): Remanded
- **Demore v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Doe v. HHS** (Damages): Dismissed
- **Eloyan v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Exum v. HHS** (Entitlement): Vacated & Remanded
- **Exum v. HHS** (Entitlement: Decision on Remand): Affirmed
- **Faulkenberry v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Felix v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Fiorello v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed

All decisions are available on the CFC's website: <http://www.uscfc.uscourts.gov>

\*Case names in yellow are new this reporting period

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Federal Claims

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (cont.):

- *Flowers v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Garcia v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Ginsberg v. HHS* (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): Affirmed-in-Part & Vacated-in-Part
- *Godfrey v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Goff v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Gonzalez v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Goodwin v. HHS* (Entitlement): Vacated & Remanded
- *Gothers v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Hampton v. HHS* (Entitlement): Dismissed
- *Harvey v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Hazelhurst v. HHS* (Post-Judgment Relief): Dismissed
- *Herms v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *Hoffman v. HHS* (Entitlement): Vacated & Remanded
- *Izard v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed
- *J.A.C. v. HHS* (Post-Judgment Relief): Affirmed
- *Kindle v. HHS* (Entitlement): Affirmed

\*Case names in yellow are new this reporting period

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Federal Claims

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (cont.):

- **Legault v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **McCoy v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): Affirmed
- **McGrath v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Mead v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): Affirmed-in-Part & Vacated-in-Part
- **Miller v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Moyler v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Munoz v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Pulsipher v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Record v. HHS** (Entitlement): Vacated & Remanded
- **Shanes v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Sparrow v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Stiegler v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Stewart-Robinson v. HHS** (Entitlement): Vacated & Remanded
- **Tripp v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Weiss v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed

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\*Case names in yellow are new this reporting period

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Federal Claims

## Decided Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (cont.):

- **Williams v. HHS** (Entitlement): Dismissed
- **Williams v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Zamora v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed

### Appeals by Respondent (3):

- **Mead v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs): Affirmed-in-Part & Vacated-in-Part
- **Mohamad v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed
- **Sims v. HHS** (Entitlement): Affirmed

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\*Case names in yellow are new this reporting period

# Appeals: U.S. Court of Federal Claims

## Pending Cases

As of November 30, 2025

### Appeals by Petitioner (13):

- **Beckwith v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Cai v. HHS** (Entitlement & Attorneys' Fees and Costs)
- **Chu v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Correira v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Dhital v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Ennis v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs)
- **Goodwin v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Henderson v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Honeycutt v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs)
- **Radke v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Schulz v. HHS** (Entitlement)
- **Stratton v. HHS** (Attorneys' Fees and Costs)
- **Thornton v. HHS** (Entitlement)

### Appeals by Respondent (0):

- None currently

\*Case names in **yellow** are new this reporting period



# Scheduled Oral Arguments

## U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit:

- *Herms v. HHS*: January 5, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
- *Townsend v. HHS*: January 9, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
- *Anklam v. HHS*: February 5, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

## U.S. Court of Federal Claims:

- *Honeycutt v. HHS*: January 7, 2026 – 2:00 p.m.
- *Goodwin v. HHS*: January 22, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
- *Radke v. HHS*: February 4, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

# Appendix



# Glossary of Terms

- **Petitions Adjudicated:** Final judgment has entered on the petition in the United States Court of Federal Claims.
- **Final Judgment:** Clerk of Court, United States Court of Federal Claims, enters judgment awarding or denying compensation.
- **Compensable:** Petitioner received an award of compensation, which can be achieved through a concession by HHS, settlement, or decision on the merits by the special master, United States Court of Federal Claims.
- **Conceded by HHS:** HHS concluded that a petition should be compensated based on review and analysis of the medical records.

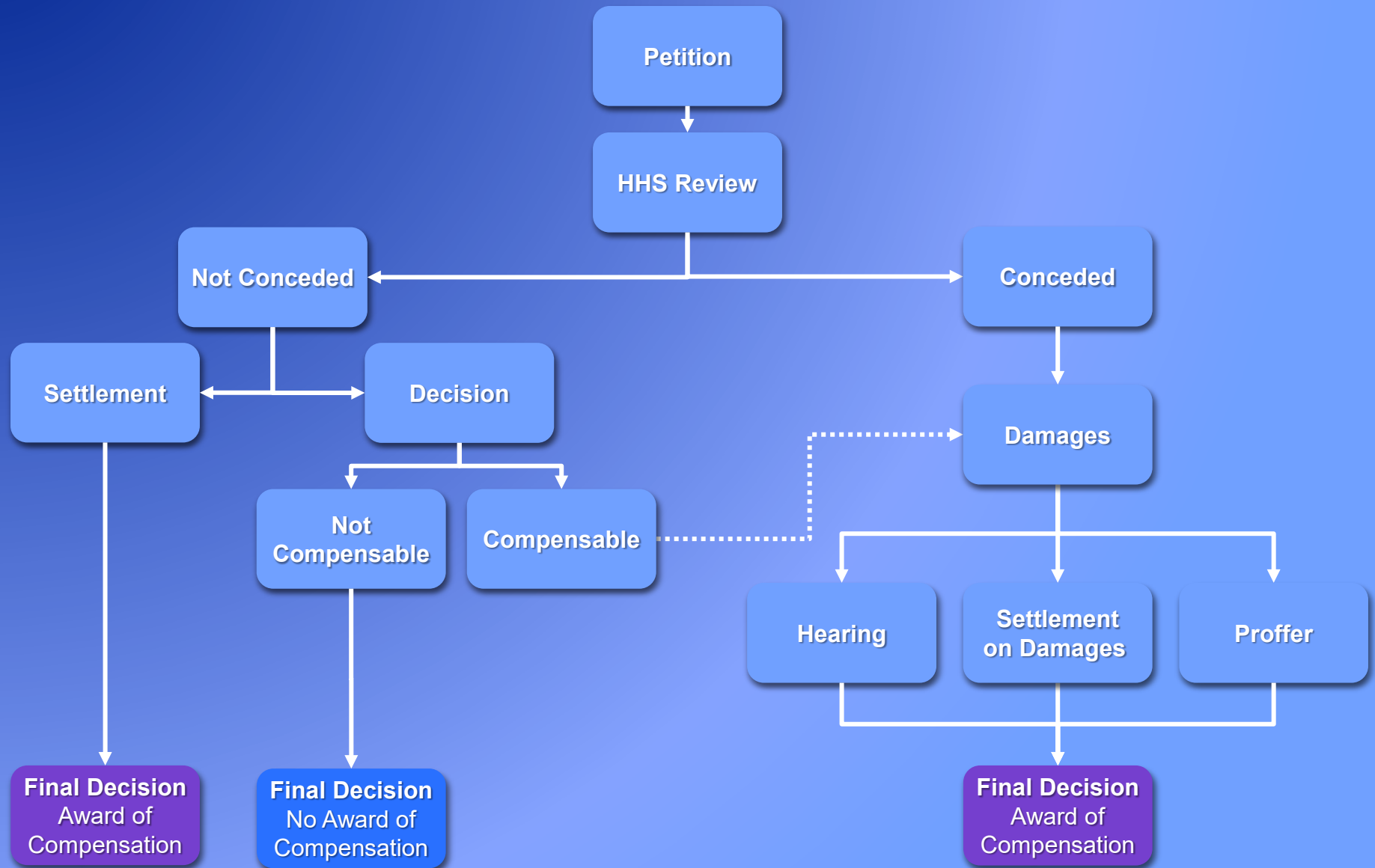
# Glossary of Terms

- **Settlement:** Petition is resolved via a negotiated settlement between the parties, and results in the filing of a stipulation that memorializes the terms of the settlement.
- **Decision:** Special Master issues decision on the merits of the petition.
- **Non-compensable/Dismissed:** Petition dismissed.
- **Proffer:** After discussions between the parties regarding a reasonable amount of damages, respondent will file a suggested award of compensation, known within the Program as a “Proffer,” which is also agreed to by petitioners and their counsel. The Proffer is reviewed by the presiding special master to determine that it represents a reasonable measure of the amount of the award and describes compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). The special master issues a final decision consistent with the terms of the Proffer.

# Glossary of Terms

- **Affirmed:** Case has been reviewed on appeal, and the court on appeal agreed with the decision of the lower court.
- **Reversed:** Case has been reviewed on appeal, and the court on appeal disagreed with the decision of the lower court. The court on appeal typically provides reasons for reversing, and that decision becomes the law of the case, absent further appeal.
- **Remanded:** Case has been reviewed on appeal, and the reviewing court has a problem with the decision and sends it back to the lower court. Typically, a case is remanded with a specific question or issue for the lower court to address.
- **Vacated:** Case has been reviewed on appeal, and the reviewing court has voided the lower court's decision.

# Petition Processing in the Office of Special Masters



# Levels of Appeal in Vaccine Act Cases

**U.S. Supreme Court**

**U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit**

**U.S. Court of Federal Claims**

**Office of Special Masters**

# Appeals Process for Vaccine Act Cases

