

STATE OF FLORIDA  
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

ASHLEY HUFFMAN and RICHARD  
HUFFMAN, individually and as  
parents and next friends of  
MALCOLM HUFFMAN, a minor,

Petitioners,

vs.

Case No. 16-0094N

FLORIDA BIRTH-RELATED  
NEUROLOGICAL INJURY COMPENSATION  
ASSOCIATION,

Respondent,

and

NIGEL SPIER, M.D.,

Intervenor.

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FINAL ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF AWARD

This cause came on for consideration pursuant to sections 766.304 and 766.305(7), Florida Statutes, upon the Stipulation and Joint Petition for Compensation of Claim Arising Out of Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Pursuant to Chapter 766, Florida Statutes (Stipulation and Joint Petition), filed with the Division of Administrative Hearings on May 3, 2016, for the entry of an order approving the resolution of a claim for compensation benefits filed in accordance with the provisions of

chapter 766 and a resolution of the exclusive remedy otherwise available as outlined in chapter 766.

By the terms of their stipulation, Petitioners, Ashley Huffman and Richard Huffman, individually and as parents and natural guardians of Malcolm Huffman, a minor, and Respondent, the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association (NICA), have agreed that Ashley Huffman and Richard Huffman, are the parents and legal guardians of Malcolm Huffman (Malcolm), a minor; that Malcolm was born a live infant on or about June 17, 2014, at Memorial Regional Hospital, a "hospital" as defined by section 766.302(6) located in Hollywood, Florida; and that Malcolm's birth weight exceeded 2,500 grams. The Parties have further agreed that Nigel Spier, M.D., provided obstetrical services at Malcolm's delivery and was a "participating physician" in the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan, as defined by section 766.302(7). The Parties have agreed that Malcolm suffered a "birth-related neurological injury," as that term is defined by section 766.302(2), which was the sole and proximate cause of Malcolm's permanent and substantial mental and physical impairment.

It is ORDERED:

1. The Stipulation and Joint Petition filed on May 3, 2016, is hereby approved, and the Parties are directed to comply with the provisions of the Stipulation and Joint Petition.

2. Petitioners, Ashley Huffman and Richard Huffman, as the parents and legal guardians of Malcolm Huffman, a minor, is awarded one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00), pursuant to section 766.31(1)(b)1., to be paid as lump sum to the parents; payment of benefits up to and including the effective date of the Stipulation and Joint Petition pursuant to section 766.31(1)(a), subject to the provisions of paragraph 19 of the Stipulation and Joint Petition; and payments of future expenses, as incurred.

3. NICA will reimburse McMillen Law Firm, attorneys for Petitioners, an agreed-upon attorney's fee of \$10,000.00 and expenses of \$1,897.54, totaling \$11,897.54 in full for services rendered in the filing of this claim.

4. Upon the payment of the award of \$100,000.00, past benefit/expenses, and \$11,897.54 for attorney's fees and costs, the claims of Petitioners shall be deemed fully satisfied and extinguished, except for Respondent's continuing obligation under section 766.31(2) to pay future expenses, as incurred.

5. The Division of Administrative Hearings retains jurisdiction over this matter to resolve any disputes, should they

arise, regarding the Parties' compliance with the terms of this Order.

DONE AND ORDERED this 5th day of May, 2016, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



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BARBARA J. STAROS  
Administrative Law Judge  
Division of Administrative Hearings  
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Filed with the Clerk of the  
Division of Administrative Hearings  
this 5th day of May, 2016.

COPIES FURNISHED:  
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NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

Review of a final order of an administrative law judge shall be by appeal to the District Court of Appeal pursuant to section 766.311(1), Florida Statutes. Review proceedings are governed by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. Such proceedings are commenced by filing the original notice of administrative appeal with the agency clerk of the Division of Administrative Hearings within 30 days of rendition of the order to be reviewed, and a copy, accompanied by filing fees prescribed by law, with the clerk of the appropriate District Court of Appeal. See § 766.311(1), Fla. Stat., and Fla. Birth-Related Neurological Injury Comp. Ass'n v. Carreras, 598 So. 2d 299 (Fla. 1st DCA 1992).