

# Help COVID-19 Vaccine Injured by Moving them from CICP to VICP— Then VICP Must be Modernized



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*While its most certainly not politically correct among research industry circles to discuss, the COVID-19 vaccines on the one hand have helped stave off more serious illness and death, albeit in spurts given limited durability, but on the other hand, an unprecedented surge in safety signals has been reported in the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#), managed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While these government agencies are quick to retort that just because a death or injury is reported in VAERS doesn't mean it's linked to the COVID-19 vaccines, certain factors such as temporal association undoubtedly contributes to the likelihood of a connection. It's well documented that VAERS typically represents an undercount of post-vaccine adverse side effects reported. Presently, persons with COVID-19 vaccine injuries have little recourse. A law firm specializing in this field of law urges people act to help change the law—move the COVID-19 vaccine injured from the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program (CICP) to the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) and modernize the latter as well.*

Groups such as [React19](#) have emerged during the pandemic to represent people who have been injured

by the COVID-19 vaccines. While the COVID-19 vaccine injured have been given little in the form of help from the U.S. government, non-profits and the private sector are mobilized to offer help where and when possible.

Lawsuits have been announced in the [United Kingdom](#) and [Australia](#), but litigation in America is severely inhibited due to protective laws triggered during the pandemic.

While the triggering of the [Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness \(PREP\) Act](#) ensures universal waiver of liability for the COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers like Pfizer and Moderna, lawyers are starting to dip their toes into the frigid COVID-19 litigation waters.

[Mctlaw](#) has opened up a COVID-19 vaccine injury practice. With offices in Washington DC, Sarasota, FL and Seattle, WA, this law firm got its start 25 years ago. Now with over 20 professionals, this small-to-midsize law firm represents one of the prominent vaccine injury practices, who played a role in founding the [Vaccine Injured Petitioners' Bar Association \(VIPBAR\)](#) with an aim of bolstering professionalism and quality of the federal [US. Vaccine Injury Compensation Program \(VICP\)](#).

What does Mctlaw report on the [COVID-19 vaccine injury front](#)? The answer is not much. That's due to the provisions of the PREP Act. The law firm informs that "The [CICP-Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program](#) is the only way to get compensation for a COVID-19 vaccine injury." And the track record for CICP during COVID-19 has been

abysmal, with only a few claims awarded at an average of about \$1,500 per person. With nearly 12,000 claims, only a few CICIP claims were awarded.

The law firm reports, “We have concluded that there is nothing our attorneys can do to help in filing a claim in the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program. This doesn’t mean you should or should not file a claim in the CICIP, simply that we do not believe there is a role for effective legal representation in the CICIP administrative process.”

Mctlaw argues that COVID-19 vaccine injured should be processed via the standard vaccine injury compensation program known as the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) which covers the typical vaccines on the CDC schedule such as MMR, DTap, HPV, pneumonia and others.

## **What about changing the law?**

The vaccine injury law firm points to a bipartisan group striving to modernize vaccine injury law in America. By June 10, 2021 this [bipartisan group proposed elements](#) for modernization including 1) accelerate the time it takes to add new vaccines to the VICP; 2) increase the statute of limitation to file a claim from 3 years to 5 years; 3) add more judges to the program so claims are processed faster; 4) increase the amount of damages that can be awarded and 5) expand the types of vaccines that can be covered by the VICP to include adult vaccines in addition to childhood vaccinations.

This proposed legislation would potentially add COVID-19 vaccines into the VICP, which would make

it far easier for COVID-19 vaccine injured persons to access at least some compensation.

On Change.org a petition has been established for the Secretary of Health and Human Services titled “Add all COVID-19 vaccines to [the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program \(VICP\)](#). While the group targets at least 7,500 signatures, to date, only 6,104 have been signed.

The firm reports that putting COVID-19 vaccine injuries under the VICP is important because importantly, “the VICP operates within the legal system. It has transparency, a court, independent judges, a right to present evidence, and a right of appeal up to the Supreme Court. This system was established in 1986 and has a long track record of awarding compensation to vaccine injured people over the years.”

Call to Action: Would you like the VICP to cover COVID-19 vaccine injury cases? [Sign the petition](#).

COVID-19    SARS-CoV-2    Vaccine Injury

Serious Adverse Events    Side Effect

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