

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Santos v. Commissioner of Social Security

Santos · No. 2:24-cv-03061-JDP · Decided September 4, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulation and proposed order for an award of attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act in Santos v. Commissioner of Social Security, Case No. 2:24-cv-03061-JDP, in the Eastern District of California. The parties agreed to an EAJA award of \$5,000, subject to Treasury Offset Program requirements and the terms concerning payment to the plaintiff or her attorney. The proposed order was signed by Magistrate Judge Jeremy D. Peterson on September 4, 2025.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Jeremy D. Peterson
DECIDED	September 4, 2025
DOCKET	2:24-cv-03061-JDP
DISPOSITION	approved
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties submitted a stipulation for an award and payment of attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, and the court entered the proposed order approving the stipulated award.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished_nonprecedential
PARTIES	Candy Jean Santos v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- administrative law
- remedies
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- administrative law
- attorney fees
- federal civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulation awarding Plaintiff \$5,000 in attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

HOLDINGS

1. The court approved and ordered an award of \$5,000 in fees and expenses to Plaintiff under the Equal Access to Justice Act, subject to the terms of the parties' stipulation.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“fees and expenses in the amount of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) as authorized by the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.” (at 4)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Candy Jean Santos was the prevailing party in the underlying civil action and represented that her net worth did not exceed \$2,000,000 when the action was filed. The parties agreed to compromise her request for EAJA fees and expenses for \$5,000. The stipulation provided that the award would belong to Santos, remain subject to any Treasury Offset Program debt, and be payable to counsel only if the Commissioner accepted the assignment and waived the Anti-Assignment Act requirements.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff sought attorney fees and expenses under the EAJA after prevailing in the underlying civil action. The parties stipulated to an award of \$5,000, subject to the statutory offset, assignment, and payment conditions described in the stipulation. The court approved the stipulated award on September 4, 2025.

DISPOSITION

approved

CASES CITED

- Astrue v. Ratliff, 130 S. Ct. 2521, 2528-29 (2010)