

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

Erin L. v. Commissioner of Social Security Administration

Erin L. · No. 6:26-cv-00080-CL · Decided June 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Oregon awarded Plaintiff \$2,605.26 in attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act and awarded no costs. The order provides that payment is subject to verification for qualifying debts under the Treasury Offset Program and may be payable to Plaintiff’s attorney pursuant to the assignment.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Oregon
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Mark D. Clarke
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Oregon
DECIDED	June 9, 2026
DOCKET	6:26-cv-00080-CL
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Order awarding attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act and denying costs after a Social Security benefits action.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; limited precedential value.

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- costs
- remedies
- administrative law
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- Administrative law
- Attorney fees
- Costs

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether Plaintiff was entitled to an award of attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
- Whether Plaintiff was entitled to an award of costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920.
- Whether the fee payment should be made to Plaintiff's attorney subject to Treasury Offset Program verification and Plaintiff's assignment.

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiff is entitled to an attorney fee award of \$2,605.26 under 28 U.S.C. § 2412.
2. Plaintiff is awarded no costs.
3. The attorney fee may be paid to Plaintiff's attorney, Andrea Banks, pursuant to Plaintiff's assignment, only after verification that Plaintiff has no debt qualifying for offset; if such debt exists, any remaining funds after offset are payable to Plaintiff and mailed to counsel's address.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“It is hereby ORDERED that, pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, an attorney fee in the amount of \$2,605.26 is awarded to Plaintiff and no costs.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion concerns Plaintiff's request for attorney fees and costs arising from a Social Security action. The court awarded \$2,605.26 in attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act but awarded no costs. Payment was directed to Plaintiff's attorney subject to verification that Plaintiff had no qualifying debt for offset under the Treasury Offset Program and based on Plaintiff's assignment of the fees.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

After the underlying Social Security action, the court considered Plaintiff's request for attorney fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act and applicable costs statute. The court awarded \$2,605.26 in attorney fees and denied costs.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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