

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Humberto Leon, Jr. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

Leon · No. 8:25-cv-00934-SK · Decided October 2, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a proposed order awarding Plaintiff Humberto Leon, Jr. \$6,020.00 in attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), with no costs awarded. It provides that the award belongs to Plaintiff, may be offset against qualifying federal debts, and may be paid to counsel if no such debt exists and an EAJA assignment is verified.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Central District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Steve Kim
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Central District of California
DECIDED	October 2, 2025
DOCKET	8:25-cv-00934-SK
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties submitted a stipulation requesting an award of attorney fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act in a Social Security action.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Humberto Leon, Jr. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

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

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- administrative law
- attorney fees

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff should receive the stipulated award of attorney fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

HOLDINGS

1. The court ordered an award of \$6,020.00 in attorney fees under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) and \$0.00 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(a), in full and final satisfaction of Plaintiff's EAJA claims.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Plaintiff shall be awarded attorney fees in the amount of \$6,020.00 (six-thousand twenty dollars and zero cents) under the EAJA, 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) and \$00.00 (zero dollars) in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(a), in full satisfaction of any and all claims that may be payable to plaintiff in this matter under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412.” (at 1)

“Any fees paid belong to Plaintiff and not Plaintiff’s attorney and can be offset to satisfy any pre-existing debt that the litigant owes the United States” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The underlying action was a Social Security case brought by Humberto Leon, Jr. against the Commissioner of Social Security. The parties stipulated to an award under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The court awarded \$6,020.00 in fees and \$0.00 in costs, subject to the statutory debt-offset procedure.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Following the parties' stipulation for an EAJA award, the district court entered an order awarding Plaintiff \$6,020.00 in attorney fees and no costs.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586 (2010)

OPINION

Jennifer L. Dunn, Esq. 1 Pro Hac Vice Attorney for Plaintiff 2 MA Bar No. 667726 Dunn Law, PLLC 3 890 Winter Street, Suite 230 4 Waltham, MA 02451 Phone: 781-478-7081 5 Fax: 781-478-7406 6 jdunn@dunnlawfirmpllc.com 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 8 9 HUMBERTO LEON, JR.,)) 10 Plaintiff,) vs.) Case No.: 8:25-cv-00934-SK 11) 12 FRANK BISIGNANO,) Commissioner of Social Security,) [PROPOSED] 13) ORDER FOR ALLOWANCE OF FEES 14 Defendant.) UNDER THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE _____) ACT, 28 U.S.C. § 2412 15 16 Based upon the parties’ Stipulation for Allowance of Fees under the Equal Access to

17 Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412, IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff shall be awarded attorney 18 fees in the amount of \$6,020.00 (six-thousand twenty dollars and zero cents) under the EAJA, 28 19 20 U.S.C. § 2412(d) and \$00.00 (zero dollars) in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(a), in full satisfaction 21 of any and all claims that may be payable to plaintiff in this matter under the Equal Access to 22 Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

23 Such award is made in full and final satisfaction (upon payment) of any and all claims under 24 the EAJA for fees, expenses, and costs. 25 26 Any fees paid belong to Plaintiff and not Plaintiff's attorney and can be offset to satisfy any 27 pre-existing debt that the litigant owes the United States, *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If 28 Defendant can verify that Plaintiff does not owe a pre-existing debt to the government subject to the offset, Defendant will direct that the award be made payable to Plaintiffs attorney pursuant to the 2 || EAJA assignment duly signed by Plaintiff and counsel.

3 * || DATED: October 2, 2025 — She 5 HON. STEVE KIM UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28