

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

Steadman v. Commissioner of Social Security

No. 6:25-cv-01771-AR (D. Or. May 15, 2026) · No. 6:25-cv-01771-AR · Decided May 15, 2026

SUMMARY

This is an order from the United States District Court for the District of Oregon awarding the plaintiff \$620.30 in attorney fees and \$405.00 in filing costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The order addresses payment subject to verification under the Treasury Offset Program and is dated May 15, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the District of Oregon                                                      |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Jaff Armistead                                                                                               |
| DECIDED               | May 15, 2026                                                                                                 |
| DOCKET                | 6:25-cv-01771-AR                                                                                             |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                        |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | Post-judgment order awarding attorney fees and costs to the plaintiff under the Equal Access to Justice Act. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | Unknown                                                                                                      |
| PARTIES               | Eric Wayne Steadman v. Commissioner of Social Security                                                       |

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- costs
- administrative law
- judicial review of agency action

PRACTICE AREAS

- administrative law
- social security
- attorney fees
- costs

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the plaintiff should receive attorney fees and filing-fee costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act and applicable cost provisions.
- Whether payment of the award must be subject to offset for qualifying debts under the Treasury Offset Program.

## HOLDINGS

1. The plaintiff is awarded \$620.30 in attorney fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act and \$405.00 in filing-fee costs pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1920.
2. The award is subject to verification of whether the plaintiff has a qualifying debt for offset under the Treasury Offset Program; if no such debt exists, payment may be made to the plaintiff's attorney, while any remaining amount after offset is payable to the plaintiff if a debt exists.

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion concerns the plaintiff's request for attorney fees and costs following litigation involving review of a final decision of the Commissioner of Social Security. The court awarded \$620.30 in attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act and \$405.00 in filing-fee costs. Payment was made subject to any qualifying debt offset under the Treasury Offset Program.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The plaintiff brought an action for review of the Commissioner's final Social Security decision. In this order, the court awarded the plaintiff \$620.30 in attorney fees and \$405.00 in filing-fee costs.

## DISPOSITION

other

## CASES CITED

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

## OPINION

Steadman

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

ERIC WAYNE STEADMAN, 6:25-cv-01771-AR

Plaintiff, vs.

ORDER

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant. It is hereby ORDERED that attorney fees in the amount of \$620.30 and costs for filing fees in the amount of \$405.00 shall be awarded to Plaintiff pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412. Attorney fees will be paid to Plaintiff's attorney, dependent upon verification that Plaintiff has no debt which qualifies for offset against the awarded fees and costs, pursuant to the Treasury Offset Program as discussed in Astrue v. Ratliff, 130 S.Ct. 2521 (2010). Attorney costs are paid pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1920.

If Plaintiff has no such debt, then the fees and costs shall be delivered via electronic funds transfer or by check made out to Plaintiff's attorney Kevin Kerr, and mailed to Plaintiff's attorney's office as follows: NW Disability benefits, LLC dba Kerr Robichaux & Carroll (TID 85-3999428), P.O. Box 14490, Portland, OR 97293. If Plaintiff has a debt, then any remaining funds after offset of the debt shall be made payable to Plaintiff and sent via electronic funds transfer or by check mailed to Plaintiff's attorney's office at the address stated above. DATED this 15th day of May, 2026. Hon Jaff Armistead United States Magistrate Judge Submitted by: Kevin Kerr, OSB #080934 kevin.kerr@GetSSD.com Kerr Robichaux & Carroll PO Box 14490 Portland, Oregon 97293 Phone: 503-255-9092 Fax: 503-255-9145 Attorney for Plaintiff