

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

Katie May Ellen Beard v. Commissioner of Social Security

Beard · No. 6:25-cv-00680-HL · Decided November 26, 2025

SUMMARY

This is an order of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon awarding Plaintiff Katie May Ellen Beard \$604.41 in attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412. The order directs payment to Plaintiff’s attorney subject to verification of any qualifying debt under the Treasury Offset Program. It is dated November 26, 2025, in Case No. 6:25-cv-00680-HL.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Oregon
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Andrew D. Hallman
DECIDED	November 26, 2025
DOCKET	6:25-cv-00680-HL
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Order awarding attorney fees to Plaintiff under the Equal Access to Justice Act following Social Security litigation.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown
PARTIES	Katie May Ellen Beard v. 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

- Whether Plaintiff was entitled to an attorney-fee award under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
- How the fee award should be paid in light of potential federal debt subject to the Treasury Offset Program.

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiff shall receive an attorney-fee award of \$604.41 pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.
2. Payment of the fee award is dependent upon verification that Plaintiff has no debt qualifying for offset under the Treasury Offset Program; if such debt exists, the debt must be offset before any remaining funds are paid.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“It is hereby ORDERED that attorney fees in the amount of \$604.41 shall be awarded to Plaintiff pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion concerns Plaintiff's request for attorney fees incurred in litigation against the Commissioner of Social Security. The court awarded \$604.41 under the Equal Access to Justice Act. It directed that payment be made to Plaintiff's attorney only if Plaintiff had no debt subject to offset; otherwise, any remaining funds after offset would be payable to Plaintiff.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff sought attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The District Court ordered an award of \$604.41 and directed that payment be subject to verification for qualifying federal debt and possible offset under the Treasury Offset Program.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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

OPINION

Beard

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

KATIE MAY ELLEN BEARD, 6:25-cv-00680-HL

Plaintiff, vs.

ORDER

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant. It is hereby ORDERED that attorney fees in the amount of \$604.41 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, pursuant to the Treasury Offset Program as discussed in *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S.Ct. 2521 (2010). If Plaintiff has no such debt, then the fees 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 26 day of N_o_v_e_m_b_e_r, 2025.

/s/_/_A_N_D_R_E_W_D._H_A_L_L_M_A_N

Andrew D. Hallman 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