

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Lupe Espinoza v. Leland Dudek

Espinoza · No. 1:24-cv-01259-GSA · Decided March 6, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulation and order awarding Plaintiff \$881.44 in attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, plus \$0.00 in costs, in a Social Security action. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California approved the parties' stipulation on March 5, 2025, subject to provisions concerning assignment, Treasury offsets, and potential fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b).

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Gary S. Austin
DECIDED	March 6, 2025
DOCKET	1:24-cv-01259-GSA
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties stipulated to an award of attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act after Plaintiff prevailed in the civil action. The court approved the stipulation and ordered an award of \$881.44 in fees and expenses and \$0.00 in costs.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Lupe Espinoza v. Leland Dudek, Acting Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

attorney fees costs administrative procedure act remedies

PRACTICE AREAS

Social Security administrative law attorney fees

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulation awarding Plaintiff \$881.44 in attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
2. Whether costs should be awarded under 28 U.S.C. § 1920.

HOLDINGS

1. The court approved the parties' stipulation and awarded Plaintiff \$881.44 in fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, subject to the terms of the stipulation.
2. The court awarded \$0.00 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“IT IS ORDERED that fees and expenses in the amount of EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE DOLLARS AND 44/100 (\$881.44) as authorized by the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and costs in the amount of ZERO dollars (\$0.00) under 28 U.S.C. §1920, be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.” (Order at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties agreed that Plaintiff was the prevailing party and that Plaintiff's net worth did not exceed \$2,000,000 when the action was filed. They stipulated to \$881.44 in attorney fees and expenses under the EAJA and \$0.00 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. The stipulation addressed payment to Plaintiff or Plaintiff's attorney depending on assignment, Treasury Offset Program obligations, and waiver of the Anti-Assignment Act.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff brought a Social Security action in the Eastern District of California. After Plaintiff became the prevailing party, the parties submitted a stipulation requesting an EAJA award. The magistrate judge approved the stipulation on March 5, 2025.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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