

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
OHIO, WESTERN DIVISION (DAYTON)

Jeffrey K. v. Commissioner of Social Security

Case No. 3:24-cv-00124 · No. 3:24-cv-00124 · Decided December 2, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio approved the parties' joint stipulation awarding Plaintiff \$6,560.00 in attorney fees and no costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The order provides that the award may be offset against qualifying federal debt and may be paid directly to Plaintiff's counsel if no such debt exists, and it leaves the case terminated.

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION (DAYTON) JEFFREY K.,: Case No. 3:24-cv-00124 Plaintiff,: Magistrate Judge Caroline H. Gentry: (by full consent of the parties) vs.: COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,: Defendant.: DECISION AND ENTRY This case is before the Court on the parties' Joint Stipulation for an Award of Attorney's Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) (Doc.

No. 14). Specifically, the parties stipulate to an award to Plaintiff of attorney fees in the amount of \$6,560.00, and \$0.00 in costs, in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims Plaintiff may have under the EAJA in the above case.

The award of attorney fees will satisfy all of Plaintiff's claims for fees, costs, and expenses under 28 U.S.C. § 2412 in this case. Any fees paid belong to Plaintiff, not his attorney, and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debt that Plaintiff owes the United States under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). Plaintiff and Defendant move that the Court award Plaintiff EAJA of \$6,560.00, and \$0.00 in costs, for a total award of \$6,560.00.

After the Court enters this award, if counsel for the parties can verify that Plaintiff owes no pre-existing debt subject to offset, Defendant agrees to direct that the award be made payable to Plaintiff's attorney pursuant to the EAJA assignment duly signed by Plaintiff and counsel. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT: 1.

The parties' Joint Stipulation for an Award of Attorney's Fees Under the EAJA (Doc. No. 14) is accepted and Defendant shall pay Plaintiff's attorney fees of \$6,560.00, and \$0.00 in costs, for a total award of \$6,560.00; 2. Counsel for the parties shall verify, within thirty days of this Decision and Entry, whether Plaintiff owes a pre-existing debt to the United States subject to offset.

If no such pre- existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff and counsel; and 3. The case remains terminated on the docket of this Court. IT IS SO ORDERED. s/ Caroline H. Gentry Caroline H. Gentry United States Magistrate Judge