

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Paul Scott Chapman, Jr. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social
Security

Chapman v. Bisignano · No. 2:24-cv-02222-AC · Decided July 28, 2025

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulation and proposed order in a Social Security action in the Eastern District of California. The parties agree to an award of \$11,000.00 in attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act and \$405.00 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. The court approved the stipulation on July 28, 2025.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Allison Claire
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	July 28, 2025
DOCKET	2:24-cv-02222-AC
DISPOSITION	approved
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties submitted a stipulation and proposed order resolving Plaintiff's request for attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act and costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. The court approved the stipulated award.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Paul Scott Chapman, Jr. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- costs
- administrative law
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- administrative law
- attorney fees and costs

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulation awarding \$11,000 in attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
2. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulated award of \$405 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920.

HOLDINGS

1. The court approved the parties' stipulation and ordered an award of \$11,000 in attorney fees and expenses under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) and \$405 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“APPROVED AND SO ORDERED” (Order, lines 3-7)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties agreed to resolve Plaintiff's request for attorney fees and expenses arising from the civil action. The stipulation provided for \$11,000 in EAJA attorney fees and expenses under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), plus \$405 in costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. The parties stated that the settlement was a compromise and did not constitute an admission of liability, and addressed potential Treasury Offset Program consequences and payment to Plaintiff or Plaintiff's attorney.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The underlying action was a Social Security case in the Eastern District of California. After the parties reached a compromise concerning Plaintiff's request for EAJA fees and costs, they submitted a stipulation for court approval. On July 28, 2025, Magistrate Judge Allison Claire approved and ordered payment of the stipulated amounts.

DISPOSITION

approved

CASES CITED

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

OPINION

(SS) Chapman, Jr. v. Commissioner of Social Security

PER CURIAM.

1 FORSLUND LAW, LLC

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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PAUL SCOTT CHAPMAN, JR.,) Case No. 2:24-CV-02222-AC

9) 10 Plaintiff) STIPULATION AND PROPOSED

) ORDER FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEY'S

11 v.) FEES AND COSTS PURSUANT TO

) 28 U.S.C. §§ 1920 AND 2412(d). 12

FRANK BISIGNANO,)

13 Commissioner of Social Security,)) 14 Defendant)) 15

_____) 16 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between

the parties through their undersigned counsel, 17 subject to the approval of the Court, that Plaintiff be awarded attorney fees and expenses in the 18 amount of ELEVEN THOUSAND dollars and ZERO cents (\$11,000.00) under the Equal Access to 19 Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and costs in the amount of FOUR HUNDRED AND FIVE 20 dollars and ZERO cents (\$405.00) under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. This amount represents compensation for 21 all legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 1920; 2412(d). 22 After the Court issues an order for payment of EAJA fees and expenses to Plaintiff, the 23 government will consider the matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees and expenses to 24 Plaintiff's attorney. The government's ability to honor the assignment will depend on whether the 25 fees and expenses are subject to an offset allowed under the United States Department of the 26 Treasury's Offset Program pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S.Ct. 2521 (2010). After the order of 27 EAJA fees and expenses is entered, the government will determine if they are subject to an offset. 28 1 If it is determined that Plaintiff's EAJA fees and expenses are not subject to an offset under 2 *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S.Ct. 2521 (2010) and the Department of Treasury's Offset Program, then the check for EAJA fees and expenses shall be made payable to Jacqueline A. Forslund, based upon 3 Plaintiff's assignment of these amounts to Plaintiff's attorney. 4 The parties agree that whether these checks are made payable to Plaintiff or Jacqueline A. 5 Forslund, such checks shall be mailed to Plaintiff's attorney. 6 This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA attorney 7 fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA or 8 otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any 9 and all claims that Plaintiff and/or Plaintiff's Counsel may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in 10 connection with this action. 11 Respectfully submitted, 12 13 Date: July 25, 2025 JACQUELINE A. FORSLUND Attorney at Law 14 15 /s/Jacqueline A. Forslund

16 JACQUELINE A. FORSLUND

Attorney for Plaintiff 17 Date: July 25, 2025 KIMBERLY A. SANCHEZ 18 Acting United States Attorney

MATHEW W. PILE

19 Associate General Counsel 20 Office of Program Litigation, Office 7 21 /s/Julie A.K.

Cummings 22

JULIE A.K. CUMMINGS

23 Special Assistant United States Attorney *By email authorization 24 Attorney for Defendant 25
26 27 28

ORDER

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3 || APPROVED AND SO ORDERED

4 ° ||DATED: July 28, 2025 . ° Cthten— Lape

7 ALLISON CLAIRE

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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and Proposed Order E.D. Cal. 2:24-cv-02222-AC