

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

Mercedes K. Collins v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

Collins · No. 3:25-cv-00754-AR · Decided May 26, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Oregon approved the parties' stipulation awarding Plaintiff Mercedes K. Collins \$5,510.82 in attorney fees and \$405.00 in costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The order explains that the award is payable by the Social Security Administration and the Treasury Judgment Fund, subject to offset for any qualifying pre-existing federal debt, and may be made payable to Plaintiff's attorney if no such debt exists and an EAJA assignment is verified.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Oregon
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Armistead, United States Magistrate Judge
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Oregon
DECIDED	May 26, 2026
DOCKET	3:25-cv-00754-AR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The court entered an order pursuant to the parties' stipulation awarding Plaintiff attorney fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished order approving a stipulated EAJA fee and cost award; limited precedential value.
PARTIES	Mercedes K. Collins v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- costs
- administrative law
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- Equal Access to Justice Act
- attorney fees
- costs

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve the parties' stipulation awarding Plaintiff attorney fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

HOLDINGS

1. The court approved the parties' stipulation and awarded Plaintiff \$5,510.82 in attorney fees and \$405.00 in costs in full satisfaction of her claims under the Equal Access to Justice Act.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Pursuant to the parties’ stipulation, the Court awards Plaintiff attorney fees in the amount of \$5,510.82 and costs in the amount of \$405.00 in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims Plaintiff may have under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) in this case.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties agreed to resolve Plaintiff's claims for attorney fees, costs, and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act. The stipulated resolution provided for \$5,510.82 in attorney fees and \$405.00 in costs, with fees payable by the Social Security Administration and costs payable from the Treasury's Judgment Fund.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties stipulated to an award resolving Plaintiff's claims for attorney fees, costs, and expenses under the EAJA. The district court approved the stipulated award and specified the payment and offset conditions.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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

OPINION

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON
MERCEDES K. COLLINS,) Plaintiff,) Vv. No. 3:25-cv-00754-AR FRANK BISIGNANO,
Commissioner of Social Security,) Defendant. ORDER Pursuant to the parties’ stipulation, the Court awards Plaintiff attorney fees in the amount of \$5,510.82 and costs in the amount of \$405.00 in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims Plaintiff may have under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) in this case.

The award of attorney fees will satisfy all of Plaintiffs claims for fees, costs, and expenses under 28 U.S.C. § 2412 in this case. Attorney fees shall be paid by the Social Security Administration and costs shall be paid from the Judgment Fund administered by the United States Treasury and

not by Defendant. Any fees paid belong to Plaintiff and not her attorney and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debt that the litigant owes the United States under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S. Ct.

2521 (2010). 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 Plaintiffs attorney pursuant to the EAJA assignment duly signed by Plaintiff and counsel. Dated: May 26, 2026 ou 4 Armistead
United State gistrate Judge