UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS JONESBORO DIVISION

CHETT SWEENEY PLAINTIFF

V. NO. 3:17-CV-00210- JTR

NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Deputy Commissioner for Operations, performing the duties and functions not reserved to the Commissioner of Social Security Administration

DEFENDANT

ORDER

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff's motion requesting an award of attorney's fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. Doc. 16. The Commissioner has filed a Response. Doc. 18.

Plaintiff's attorney, Stephanie Bartels Wallace, requests a total payment of \$2,796.92, consisting of: (1) 12.35 hours of attorney work in 2017-18 at an hourly rate of \$196.00 (\$2,410.80); (2) 4.75 hours of paralegal work at the hourly rate of \$75.00 (\$356.25); and (3) \$20.07 in expenses. The Commissioner does not object to the requested amount.

¹On January 18, 2018, the Court entered an Order and Judgment reversing the Commissioner's decision and remanding this case for further administrative proceedings. *Docs.* 14 & 15.

Under the circumstances, the Court concludes that Plaintiff is entitled to an award of attorney's fees and expenses under the EAJA, and that the amount requested is reasonable.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses Pursuant to the EAJA, *Doc. 16*, is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff is awarded \$2,796.92 in attorney's fees and expenses under the EAJA.²

DATED this 2nd day of April, 2018.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE HIDGE

²Consistent with the Commissioner's usual procedure in light of *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010), the check awarding EAJA fees should be made payable to Plaintiff, but mailed to the care of Plaintiff's attorney at the attorney's office.