

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS  
JONESBORO DIVISION

JAMES METZLER

PLAINTIFF

V.

Case No. 3:17-CV-00238 JTK

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

DEFENDANT

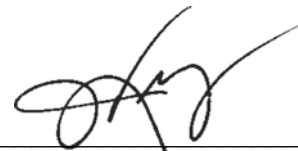
**ORDER**

Pending is Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney's Fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412 (DE #17). In the motion, Plaintiff requests \$2,538.47 in fees and expenses. The Commissioner has no objection (DE #19). After careful consideration, the Court hereby finds that the motion should be granted and that Plaintiff be awarded reasonable attorney's fees.

EAJA fees are payable to Plaintiff, not Plaintiff's attorney, and such fees are subject to an offset when the Plaintiff has outstanding federal debts. *See Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S. Ct. 2521 (2010). Therefore, subject to any offset, payment by check to the order of the Plaintiff, in care of his attorney, will issue to Plaintiff's attorney.

Accordingly, the Motion for Attorney's Fees (DE #17) is GRANTED. Plaintiff is awarded \$2,538.47.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 24th day of September, 2018.



---

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE