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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JASON TRAVIS UHL,

Plaintiff.

v.

CAROLYN W. COLVIN, Acting Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

Case No. 1: 13-cv-01303-SMS

ORDER REQUESTING DOCUMENTATION SUBSTANTIATING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES UNDER THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

On March 2, 2016, Plaintiff filed a motion for attorney's fees, costs, and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. Doc. 37. Therein, he seeks \$11,814.08 in attorney's fees for 65.95 hours expended on this case. In support of the motion are: (1) the declaration of Mr. Rohlfing, (2) an itemized statement of the hours expended by the attorneys and two paralegals, (3) an excerpt from the "United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report 2013-2014" by Ronald L. Burdge, Esq., and (4) the contingency agreement between Plaintiff and the Law Offices of Lawrence D. Rohlfing. Included in the itemized statement are hours attorney Lawrence D. Rohlfing ("LDR") claimed he spent in 2015 preparing the appeal before the Ninth Circuit. The Commissioner expressed opposition with the hours LDR spent preparing and drafting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In his reply brief, Plaintiff requests additional fees for time expended reviewing the Commissioner's opposition and preparing the reply brief, thereby bringing the total request to \$12,575.20. Doc. 42.

the opening brief. Doc. 41. To this, LDR asserts the hours claimed were reasonable because the brief "required a greater exploration and explanation" of the relevant topic and that it spanned 33-pages long. Doc. 42.

The Court cannot verify the validity of LDR's assertions without the Ninth Circuit brief, which Plaintiff did not provide. It is Plaintiff's burden, as the moving party here to prove the reasonableness of his request. *See Blum v. Stenson*, 465 U.S. 886, 897 (1984) (noting the burden lies with the applicant to demonstrate the reasonableness of his request). Accordingly, Plaintiff is directed to submit his Ninth Circuit opening brief to the Court within seven (7) days of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 9, 2016 /s/ Sandra M. Snyder
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE