UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FRESNO DIVISION

DAVID JOHN MARDIKIAN,

Case No. 1:17-cv-181-JDP

Plaintiff,

ORDER FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEY FEES UNDER EQUAL ACCESS TO

JUSTICE ACT

Commissioner of Social Security,

v.

Defendant.

The Parties through their undersigned counsel, subject to the Court's approval, stipulate that Plaintiff be awarded attorney fees in the amount of SEVEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS and 00/100 (\$7,290.00) under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d). This amount represents compensation for all legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d).

After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the government will consider the matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees to counsel. Pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586, 598, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 177 L.Ed.2d 91 (2010), the ability to honor the assignment will depend on whether the fees are subject to any offset allowed under the United States Department of the Treasury's Offset Program. After the order for EAJA fees is entered, the government will determine whether they are subject to any offset.

Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause the payment of fees, expenses and costs to be made directly to counsel, pursuant to the assignment executed by Plaintiff. Any payments made shall be delivered to Plaintiff's counsel, Jonathan O. Peña.

This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA. Payment of SEVEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS and 00/100 (\$7,290.00) in EAJA attorney fees shall constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any and all claims that Plaintiff and Plaintiff's attorney, Jonathan O. Peña, may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in connection with this action.

This award is without prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff's attorney to seek Social Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the savings clause provisions of the EAJA.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 3, 2019

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE