(SS) White v. Commissioner of Social Security

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rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 1920; 2412(d).

After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Earl Fitzgerald White, the government will consider the matter of Earl Fitzgerald White's assignment of EAJA fees to Young Cho. The retainer agreement containing the assignment is attached as exhibit 1. Pursuant to *Astrue v*. *Ratliff*, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 2529 (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 Earl Fitzgerald White, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that Earl Fitzgerald White does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause the payment of fees, expenses and costs to be made directly to Law Offices of Lawrence D. Rohlfing, pursuant to the assignment executed by Earl Fitzgerald White. Any payments made shall be delivered to Young Cho.

This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Earl Fitzgerald White's request for EAJA attorney fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA or otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any and all claims that Earl Fitzgerald White and/or Young Cho including Law Offices of Lawrence D. Rohlfing may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in connection with this action.

This award is without prejudice to the rights of Young Cho and/or the Law Offices of Lawrence D. Rohlfing to seek Social Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the savings clause provisions of the EAJA.

The parties do not stipulate whether counsel for the plaintiff has a cognizable lien under federal law against the recovery of EAJA fees that survives the Treasury Offset Program.

1	DATE: March 22, 2018
2	Respectfully submitted,
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4	LAW OFFICES OF LAWRENCE D. ROHLFING
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6	Young Cho Attorney for plaintiff Earl Fitzgerald White
7	
8	DATE: March 22, 2018 McGREGOR W. SCOTT United States Attorney
9	
10	/S/ Douna W. Anderson
11	DONNA W. ANDERSON Special Assistant United States Attorney
12	Attorneys for Defendant NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Acting Commissioner of Social Security (Per e-mail authorization)
13	Commissioner of Social Security (For a man authorization)
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ORDER Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access to Justice Act Fees and Expenses, IT IS ORDERED that fees in the amount of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00), as authorized by 28 U.S.C. §2412, be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation. IT IS SO ORDERED. /s/Barbara A. McAuliffe Dated: March 23, 2018 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE