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10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
12 **FRESNO DIVISION**

13 Evelyn Ramos,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 Martin O'Malley¹, Commissioner of
17 Social Security,

18 Defendant.

Case No. 1:22-cv-01297-GSA

**STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD
AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY
FEES AND EXPENSES PURSUANT
TO THE EQUAL ACCESS TO
JUSTICE ACT; ORDER**

19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between the parties through their
20 undersigned counsel, subject to the approval of the Court, that Plaintiff be awarded
21 attorney fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND NINETY-FIVE
22 DOLLARS AND 34/100 (\$6,095.34) under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28
23 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and costs in the amount of ZERO dollars (\$0.00) under 28 U.S.C.

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26 ¹ Martin O'Malley became the Commissioner of Social Security on December
27 20, 2023. Pursuant to Rule 25(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Martin
28 O'Malley should be substituted for Kilolo Kijakazi as the defendant in this suit. No
further action need be taken to continue this suit by reason of the last sentence of
section 205(g) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

1 §1920. This amount represents compensation for all legal services rendered on behalf of
2 Plaintiff by counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C.
3 §§ 1920, 2412(d).

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

11 Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury
12 determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause
13 the payment of fees, expenses and costs to be made directly to Counsel, pursuant to
14 the assignment executed by Plaintiff. Any payments made shall be delivered and
15 made payable to Plaintiff's counsel, Jonathan O. Peña. Additionally, any payment of
16 costs under 28 U.S.C. §1920 may be made either by electronic fund transfer (ETF) or
17 by check.

18 This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for
19 EAJA attorney fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of
20 Defendant under the EAJA or otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall
21 constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any and all claims that Plaintiff and/or
22 Counsel including Counsel's firm may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in
23 connection with this action.

24 This award is without prejudice to the rights of Counsel and/or Counsel's firm
25 to seek Social Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the
26 savings clause provisions of the EAJA.

27 Respectfully submitted,
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2 Dated: March 26, 2024

/s/ Jonathan O. Peña
3 JONATHAN O. PEÑA
4 Attorney for Plaintiff

5 Dated: March 26, 2024

6 PHILLIP A. TALBERT
7 United States Attorney
8 MATHEW W. PILE
9 Associate General Counsel
10 Office of Program Litigation
11 Social Security Administration

12 By: * Shannon Fishel
13 Shannon Fishel
14 Special Assistant U.S. Attorney
15 Attorneys for Defendant
16 (*Permission to use electronic signature
17 obtained via email on March 26, 2024).

18
19 **ORDER**

20 Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access
21 to Justice Act Fees and Expenses (the "Stipulation"),

22 **IT IS ORDERED** that fees and expenses in the amount of SIX THOUSAND
23 NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS AND 34/100 (\$6,095.34) as authorized by the Equal Access
24 to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and costs in the amount of ZERO dollars
25 (\$0.00) under 28 U.S.C. §1920, be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.

26 IT IS SO ORDERED.

27 Dated: March 28, 2024

/s/ Gary S. Austin
28 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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