After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Richard Mitchener, the government will consider the matter of Richard Mitchener's assignment of EAJA fees to Laura E. Krank. 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 Richard Mitchener, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that Richard Mitchener 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 Rohlfing & Kalagian, LLP, pursuant to the assignment executed by Richard Mitchener.<sup>1</sup> Any payments made shall be delivered to Laura E. Krank.

This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Richard Mitchener'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 Richard Mitchener and/or Laura E. Krank including Law Offices of Rohlfing & Kalagian, LLP may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in connection with this action.

This award is without prejudice to the rights of Laura E. Krank and/or the Law Offices of Rohlfing & Kalagian, LLP to seek Social Security Act attorney

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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	fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the savings clause provisions of the
2	EAJA.
3	DATE: May 25, 2018 Respectfully submitted,
4	ROHLFING & KALAGIAN, LLP
5	/s/ Laura E. Krank
6	BY: Laura E. Krank
7	Attorney for plaintiff Richard Mitchener
8	DATED: May 25, 2018 MCGREGOR W. SCOTT
9	United States Attorney
10	/s/ Margaret 9. Branick-Abilla
11	MARGARET I. BRANICK-ABILLA
12	Special Assistant United States Attorney
13	Attorneys for Defendant NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Acting Commissioner of Social Security (Per e-mail authorization)
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15	
16	
17	ORDER
18	Approved and so ordered.
19	DATED: June 25, 2018.
20	EDMUND F. BRENNAN UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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