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This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA attorney fees, and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA. Payment of six thousand dollars (\$6000.00) in EAJA attorney fees shall constitute a complete release from and bar to any and all claims Plaintiff may have relating to EAJA fees, expenses, and/or costs in connection with this action.

After this Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the Commissioner will consider the matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees to Plaintiff's attorney. 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 and the Commissioner will determine whether the fees are subject to an offset. See Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586, 598 (2010). Any payment shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that Plaintiff does not owe a Federal debt, then the Commissioner shall cause the payment of fees and costs to be made directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the assignment executed by Ms. Rutledge (attached).

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

Dated: October 17, 2017

Dated: October 17, 2017

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/s/ Charles Bruce

CHARLES BRUCE

Attorney for Plaintiff Bernadette Rutledge

By: /s/*Ben A. Porter

BEN A. PORTER

Special Assistant United States Attorney * by email authorization 10/16/2017

Attorneys for Defendant

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2	Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access to Justice Act
3	Fees And Costs, IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff shall be awarded attorney fees under the EAJA
4	in the amount of six thousand dollars and zero cents (\$6000.00), as authorized by 28 U.S.C. §§
5	1920, 2412(d), subject to the terms of the above-referenced Stipulation.
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9	Dated: 10/18/17
10	Landel Westmore
11	THE HONORABLE KANDIS A. WESTMORE United States Magistrate Judge
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