

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. Case 1:14-cv-03162-MJW

MELISSA BLUTE

Plaintiff,

v.

CAROLYN W. COLVIN, Acting Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

ORDER

(Docket No. 23)

The Unopposed Motion for Order Approving Award of Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act, filed April 29, 2016, is **GRANTED**. In consideration thereof, it is

ORDERED that Defendant pay to Plaintiff reasonable attorney fees in the amount of \$4,200. Payment shall be made payable to Plaintiff and delivered to Plaintiff's counsel. *See Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S. Ct. 2521 (2010) (holding that EAJA awards are payable to litigants and that EAJA awards are subject to offset by the Treasury Department to satisfy any debts litigants may owe to the Government). Defendant will consider the propriety of directing payment to the attorney pursuant to an assignment, but will do so only after the award has been issued to Plaintiff and the amount of any federal debt owed by Plaintiff is properly offset.

DATED at Denver, Colorado, this 29TH day of Apr. 1, 2016.

BY THE COURT:



Michael J. Watanabe
United States Magistrate Judge