

**NITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION**

CHRISTOPHER DORIEN
HOOPER,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 8:24-cv-01038-AEP

MARTIN O'MALLEY,
Commissioner of Social Security,

Defendant.

_____ /

ORDER

This cause comes before the Court on Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Attorney's Fees. (Doc. 16). By the Motion, Plaintiff seeks attorney's fees in the amount of \$7,000 and costs in the amount of \$405.00 pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d). On September 5, 2024, this Court entered an Order reversing and remanding the case to the Commissioner for further administrative proceedings. (Doc. 13). Thereafter, the Clerk entered judgment in favor of Plaintiff. (Doc. 14).

As the prevailing party, Plaintiff now requests an award of attorney's fees. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A); *cf. Shalala v. Schaefer*, 509 U.S. 292, 300–02 (1993) (concluding that a party who wins a sentence-four remand order under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) is a prevailing party), *superseded by rule on other grounds*, Fed. R. Civ. P. 58(c)(2)(B). After issuance of an order awarding EAJA fees, the United States

Department of the Treasury will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the government. If Plaintiff has no discernable federal debt, the government will accept Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees and pay the fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel.

The Commissioner does not oppose the requested relief. (Doc. 16, at 1). Additionally, Plaintiff and Plaintiff's attorney filed affidavits in support of the motion. (Docs. 16-1, 16-3). Therefore, for the reasons set out in Plaintiff's motion and supported by the affidavits, it is hereby

ORDERED:

1. Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Attorney's Fees (Doc. 16) is GRANTED.

2. Plaintiff is awarded fees in the amount of \$7,000 and costs in the amount of \$405.00. Unless the Department of Treasury determines that Plaintiff owes a federal debt, the government must pay the fees and costs to Plaintiff's counsel in accordance with Plaintiff's assignment. (Docs. 16-2, 16-5).

DONE AND ORDERED in Tampa, Florida, on this 24th day of September 2024.



ANTHONY E. PORCELLI
United States Magistrate Judge

cc: Counsel of Record