Johnson v. BERRYHILL Doc. 30

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

EUNICE JOHNSON, Civil No.: 17-10452

Plaintiff, : Hon. Matthew F. Leitman

United States District Judge

v. :

: Hon. David R. Grand

ANDREW SAUL, : United States Magistrate Judge

COMMISSIONER OF :

SOCIAL SECURITY,

:

Defendant. :

ORDER ON MOTION FOR AWARD OF § 406(b) FEES

Plaintiff's motion for an award of attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b) in the amount of \$9,735.00 (Docket No. 27) is **GRANTED**. The Commissioner has no objection to this motion (Docket No. 27 at 6 n.2). That award amounts to 25% of the past due benefits of \$38,940.01 that the attorney's efforts obtained for Plaintiff in this case. I conclude under the circumstances that it is reasonable. *See Gisbrecht v. Barnhart*, 535 U.S. 789 (2002). This order has been presented and approved by Attorney Ronald Makawa from the Office of General Counsel of the Social Security Administration.

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¹ Since this Court denied Plaintiff's attorney's motion for fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA") (Docket No. 25), there is no EAJA award to return to the claimant. *See Gisbrecht*, 535 U.S. at 796 ("Fee awards may be under both [the EAJA and § 406(b)], but the claimant's attorney must refund to the claimant the amount of the smaller fee.") (internal quotation and alteration omitted).

s/ Wesley J. Lamey
Wesley J. Lamey
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s/Ronald W. Makawa²
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IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/Matthew F. Leitman
MATTHEW F. LEITMAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: October 24, 2019

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² Signed with consent obtained via email communication on October 24, 2019.