

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION**

RHONDA MARIE BAILEY,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 v.)
)
 CAROLYN W. COLVIN,)
 Acting Commissioner of Social Security,)
)
 Defendant.)

No. 4:13-CV-1846 CAS

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on plaintiff’s application for an award of attorney’s fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(B). The Commissioner does not object to the request for attorney’s fees.

Background

On September 19, 2013, plaintiff Rhonda Marie Bailey filed the above-captioned cause of action challenging the denial of her application for disability insurance benefits and supplemental security income benefits under Title II and Title XVI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1381 et seq. On September 29, 2015, the Court reversed the decision of the administrative law judge (“ALJ”) and remanded the action for further proceedings pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). Following the order of remand, plaintiff’s counsel filed the present application for attorney’s fees.

Plaintiff seeks attorney’s fees for 28.1 hours of work done by attorney Traci L. Severs at the rate of \$188.60 per hour. The total amount of fees sought by plaintiff is Five Thousand Two

Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Sixty-Six Cents (\$5,299.66). Defendant responded to plaintiff's motion and did not oppose plaintiff's request.

Discussion

The Court finds the award of fees is proper in this case. Section 2412 of the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) provides that a court:

shall award to a prevailing party . . . fees . . . incurred by that party in any civil action (other than cases sounding in tort), including proceedings for judicial review of agency action, brought by or against the United States in any court having jurisdiction of that action, unless the court finds that the position of the United States was substantially justified or that special circumstances make an award unjust.

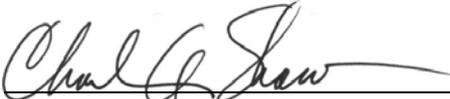
28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A). Accordingly, plaintiff's attorney is entitled to fees if (i) plaintiff was the prevailing party, (ii) the fees were "incurred by that party in [the] civil action" in which the party prevailed, and (iii) the defendant's position was not substantially justified. *Id.* Plaintiff has met all of these requirements in the instant matter. *Shalala v. Schaefer*, 509 U.S. 292, 302 (1993) ("a party who wins a sentence-four remand order is a prevailing party.") The Court, therefore, will award plaintiff her attorney's fees in the amount of Five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Sixty-Six Cents.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for attorney's fees is **GRANTED**.

[Doc. 29]

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that plaintiff is awarded attorney's fees in the amount of Five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Sixty-Six Cents (\$5,299.66). The award shall be made payable to Rhonda Marie Bailey. See Astrue v. Ratliff, 130 S. Ct. 2521, 2529 (2010).



CHARLES A. SHAW
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated this 19th day of May, 2016.