



from the Social Security Administration, dated March 20, 2021, which states that it had previously erred by not withholding the 25% Attorney fee, in the amount of \$5,151.75, which is due to Counsel. To decide whether to award this fee, this Court must determine whether it is reasonable.

The relevant statute, 42 U.S.C. § 406(b)(1)(A), states:

Whenever a court renders a judgment favorable to a claimant under this title [42 USCS §§ 401 et seq.] who was represented before the court by an attorney, the court may determine and allow as part of its judgment a reasonable fee for such representation, not in excess of 25 percent of the total of the past-due benefits to which the claimant is entitled by reason of such judgment . . .

The statute requires that the fee must be reasonable. Plaintiff and her counsel entered into a contingent fee agreement, under which counsel is entitled to a fee of 25 percent of the past due benefits awarded to Plaintiff. Because this is within the statutory maximum allowed by § 406(b), and taking into account the highly successful result obtained for Plaintiff, the amount of time spent on the case, counsel's experience and normal hourly rate, and the risk inherent in taking cases on contingency, the Court concludes that the requested fee is reasonable.

For these reasons,

**IT IS ON THIS** 6th DAY OF April, 2021

**ORDERED** that Plaintiff's motion for attorney's fees (Docket Entry No. 37) is **GRANTED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Court authorizes a payment to Sheryl Gandel Mazur, Esquire, in the amount of \$5,151.75 in attorney's fees which have not been withheld from Plaintiff's past-due benefits for court-related services.

s/ Stanley R. Chesler  
STANLEY R. CHESLER, U.S.D.J.