

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTHERN DIVISION
No. 7:16-cv-00310-D

JOYNEKA N. JONES,)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

NANCY A. BERRYHILL,)
Acting Commissioner)
of Social Security,)

Defendant.)

ORDER FOR PAYMENT OF FEES
PURSUANT TO THE EQUAL
ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

Plaintiff having applied for \$443.16 in attorney fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), with no objection by Defendant; and it appearing that Plaintiff has assigned her right to payment of such fees and costs to her attorney; and

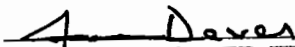
Pursuant to *Comm’r of Soc. Sec. v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010), the fee award will first be subject to offset of any debt Plaintiff may owe to the United States. Defendant will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the United States. If so, the debt will be satisfied first, and if any funds remain, they will be made payable to Plaintiff and mailed to Plaintiff’s counsel. If the United States Department of the Treasury reports to the Commissioner that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the government will exercise its discretion and honor the assignment of EAJA fees, and pay the awarded fees to Plaintiff’s counsel.

It is therefore ORDERED, this 2 day of April, 2017, that Plaintiff shall be, and hereby is, awarded the sum of \$443.16 in full satisfaction of any and all claims against Defendant arising under the EAJA, 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and upon the payment of such sum, Defendant shall be discharged from any further liability for fees, costs, or expenses up until this

point in time; and it is further

ORDERED, that, if Plaintiff does not owe any debt to the United States, payment of such amounts shall be made directly to Plaintiff's attorney.

SO ORDERED. This 2 day of April 2017.



JAMES C. DEVER III
Chief United States District Judge