

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLOTTE DIVISION**

**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 3:12-cv-716**

SHAKIRA TOWNSEND )  
on behalf of I.L.J., )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
vs. )  
 )  
CAROLYN W. COLVIN,<sup>1</sup> )  
COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL )  
SECURITY, )  
 )  
Defendant. )

**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER IS BEFORE THE COURT** on the Plaintiff’s Motion for Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A) filed on October 23, 2013 (Doc. No. 18). The parties agree in this case that Plaintiff should be awarded an attorney’s fee under the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), in the amount of \$2,746.88.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the Plaintiff’s Motion for Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A) (Doc. No. 18) is **GRANTED**, to the extent that the Court will award attorney fees in the amount of \$2,746.88, and that 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. The Commissioner will determine within 30 days of this Order 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

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<sup>1</sup> Carolyn W. Colvin became the Acting Commissioner of Social Security on February 14, 2013. Pursuant to Rule 25(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Carolyn W. Colvin should be substituted for Michael J. Astrue as the defendant in this suit. No further action need be taken to continue this suit by reason of the last sentence of section 205(g) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

States Department of the Treasury reports to the Commissioner that the Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the Government will exercise its discretion and honor an assignment of EAJA fees, and pay the awarded fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel. No additional petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) shall be filed.

**SO ORDERED.**

Signed: December 2, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Graham C. Mullen", written over a horizontal line.

Graham C. Mullen  
United States District Judge

