Pottratz v. Berryhill Doc. 16

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

KYLE JAMES POTTRATZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 17-CV-134-JPS

NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration

Defendant.

ORDER

On May 18, 2017, the Court remanded this case to the Social Security Administration pursuant to the parties' stipulation. (Docket #12, #13, and #14). On June 15, 2017, the parties filed a stipulation agreeing that the plaintiff should receive an award of attorney fees, pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. (Docket #15). Pursuant to that stipulation, and because the Court finds that the fees incurred are both reasonable and necessary and qualify under the EAJA,

IT IS ORDERED that the parties' stipulation for an award of attorney's fees (Docket #15) be and the same is hereby ADOPTED; an award of attorney fees in the sum of \$4,577.25 shall be paid by the defendant in full satisfaction and settlement of any and all claims the plaintiff may have in this matter pursuant to the EAJA. These fees are awarded to the plaintiff and not the plaintiff's attorney and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debts that the litigant owes the United States under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If counsel for the parties verify that the plaintiff owes no pre-existing debt subject to offset, then the defendant shall direct that the award be made payable to the plaintiff's attorney pursuant to the EAJA

assignment signed by the plaintiff and counsel. If the plaintiff owes a preexisting debt subject to offset in an amount less than the EAJA award, the Social Security Administration will instruct the U.S. Department of Treasury that any check for the remainder after offset will be made payable to the plaintiff and mailed to the business address of the plaintiff's attorney.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 15th day of June, 2017.

BY THE COURT:

P. Stadtmueller J.S. District Judge