

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
FORT MYERS DIVISION

NICOLE M. STOCKMAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No: 2:17-cv-76-FtM-38MCR

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL
SECURITY,

Defendant.

ORDER¹

This matter comes before the Court on United States Magistrate Judge Monte C. Richardson's Report and Recommendation ([Doc. 26](#)) on Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Attorney's Fees ([Doc. 25](#)). Judge Richardson recommends that Plaintiff's Motion be granted. No party has objected to the Report and Recommendation, and the period to do so has elapsed. This matter is ripe for review.

After conducting a careful and complete review of the findings and recommendations, a district judge may accept, reject, or modify the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. See [28 U.S.C. § 636\(b\)\(1\)](#); see also [Williams v. Wainwright](#), [681 F.2d 732 \(11th Cir. 1982\)](#). In the absence of specific objections, there is no

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requirement that a district judge review factual findings *de novo*, [Garvey v. Vaughn](#), 993 F.2d 776, 779 n.9 (11th Cir. 1993), and the court may accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the findings and recommendations, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). The district judge reviews legal conclusions *de novo*, even in the absence of an objection. See [Cooper-Houston v. Southern Ry. Co.](#), 37 F.3d 603, 604 (11th Cir. 1994).

After conducting an independent examination of the file and upon consideration of Judge Richardson's findings and recommendation, the Court accepts the Report and Recommendation.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

- (1) Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Attorney's Fees ([Doc. 25](#)) is **GRANTED**.
- (2) The Clerk of Court is **DIRECTED** to enter an amended judgment in favor of Plaintiff against Defendant in the amount of \$7,437.86 for attorney's fees and \$12.00 for paralegal fees.
- (3) The Commissioner is **DIRECTED** to determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the government. If the United States Department of the Treasury determines the Plaintiff does not owe such a debt, the Government is directed to accept Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees and pay the fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel.

DONE and **ORDERED** in Fort Myers, Florida this 22nd day of March, 2018.


SHERI POLSTER CHAPPELL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Copies: All Parties of Record