

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
ORLANDO DIVISION**

CHRISTOPHER GLENN DEGRACIA
LUCAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No: 6:23-cv-224-ACC-LHP

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL
SECURITY,

Defendant

ORDER¹

This cause came on for consideration without oral argument on the following motion filed herein:

**MOTION: PLAINTIFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR
ATTORNEY'S FEES (Doc. No. 24)**

FILED: October 25, 2023

THEREON it is ORDERED that the motion is GRANTED.

¹ The parties have consented to the exercise of jurisdiction by a United States Magistrate Judge over this motion. See Doc. Nos. 25, 27.

Plaintiff, through counsel of record, filed a complaint against the Commissioner of Social Security regarding the denial of an application for disability benefits. Doc. No. 1. On August 23, 2023, pursuant to an unopposed motion to remand filed by the Commissioner (Doc. No. 20), the Court reversed and remanded the case to the Commissioner pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). Doc. Nos. 21–22. Judgment was entered in favor of Plaintiff and against the Commissioner the next day. Doc. No. 23.

By the present motion, Plaintiff seeks an award of attorney’s fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d). Doc. No. 24. Plaintiff requests a total of \$3,830.17 in attorney’s fees under the EAJA, for 15.7 hours of work performed by her counsel in 2023. *Id.* at 2, 7, 11–12. The Commissioner does not oppose the motion. *Id.*, at 3.

Upon consideration, and absent any objection from the Commissioner, the Court finds the request for fees pursuant to the EAJA well taken. Accordingly, Plaintiff’s Uncontested Motion for Attorney’s Fees (Doc. No. 24) is **GRANTED**, to the extent that Plaintiff is awarded a total of \$3,830.17 in attorney’s fees under the EAJA.²

² Plaintiff’s motion references an assignment of EAJA fees from Plaintiff to counsel. Doc. No. 24, at 2. *See also* Doc. No. 24-1. However, Plaintiff states only that “after the Court issues an order awarding EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the Commissioner will determine

DONE and ORDERED in Orlando, Florida on November 2, 2023.



LESLIE HOFFMAN PRICE
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Copies furnished to:

Counsel of Record
Unrepresented Parties

whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the government. If the U.S. Department of the Treasury determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the government will accept Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees and pay fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel." Doc. No. 24, at 2. The government may exercise its discretion to honor Plaintiff's assignment of attorney's fees awarded under the EAJA if the government determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, but the Court will not order the government to do so.