| GENE S. GROVES, | ) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Petitioner, | ) |
| v. |  |

Robert A. McDonald, ) Secretary of Veterans Affairs, )

Respondent.

## MOTION FOR AWARD OF EXPENSES

In response to this Court's order of November 25, 2014, Mr. Groves seeks award of expenses and fees associated with the preparation, presentation, and filing of this motion in accordance with 28 U.S.C. 2412(d)(1)(A), (1)(B), (2)(B).

Appellant asserts that he is the prevailing party, that his net worth does not exceed $\$ 2,000,000.00$; that the Secretary's position was not substantially justified; and an itemized statement of the fees and expenses is also submitted. See 28 U.S.C. 2412(d)(1)(A), (1)(B), (2)(B); Scarborough v. Principi, 541 U.S. 401, 408 (2004).

Mr. Groves seeks expenses "customarily charged to the client where the case is tried", and ordinarily arising in the course of providing
legal services' to a client: internet, messenger service, postage, and computer-assisted research, which are recoverable under EAJA section 2412(d)(1)(A) as 'expenses'; March v. Brown, No. 91-1104 (Decided November 18, 1994 ); Holden v. Bowen, 668 F. Supp. 1042 (N.D. Ohio 1986) (awarding telephone, messenger service, postage, computer-assisted research, and travel expenses); Cook, (citing Oliveira, 827 F.2d at 743) ("[T]he weight of case law suggests that all 'legal expenses ordinarily arising in the course of providing legal services' to a client are recoverable under EAJA section 2412(d)(1)(A) as 'expenses'"); Hirschey v. FERC, 777 F.2d 1, 6 (D.C. Cir. 1985)(finding that "a charge ... for computer research is appropriate").

Appellant submits the following expenses associated with this action:
(1.) Postage of $\$ 52.00$;
(2.) Photocopying of $\$ 298.00$;
(3.) Computer legal/records research equivalent to 13 trips to the nearest library hours, at $\$ 75.00$ per equivalent, for $\$ 975.00$;

Total of expenses being $\$ 1,325.00$.
The nearest college library which would contain current and relevant Court Orders and relevant case law is approximately 150 miles from my residence. At the current mileage rate of $\$ 1.00$ per mile this would equate to
$\$ 150.00$, Mr . Groves has instead listed half that cost, $\$ 75.00$ for 13 trips, as computer research which was necessary in order to keep the Court up to date on current and evolving case law[Rule 30(b), Murphy v. Shinseki, No. 121700(Decided Aril 4, 2014)] and supportive caselaw citations required by the Court and used in support of all motions submitted.

No expenses have been submitted for the cost of paper or envelopes or the multitude of hours spent composing, writing, and rewriting motions and briefs.

Mr. Groves, the prevailing party, has not "during the course of the proceedings engaged in conduct which unduly and unreasonably protracted the final resolution of the matter in controversy." § 2412(d)(1)(C); see also § 2412(d)(2)(D) (noting that "fees and expenses may not be awarded to a party for any portion of the litigation in which the party has unreasonably protracted the proceedings"). In light of this statutory language, the Supreme Court has held that "absent dilatory conduct by the prevailing party in 'any portion' of the litigation, which would justify denying fees for that portion, a fee award presumptively encompasses all aspects of the civil action," including the appeal. Jean, 496 U.S. at 162 (emphasis added).

The Supreme Court instructs that courts presume that the fee award should reimburse plaintiffs for their involvement in all phases of this litigation. Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 433-37 (1993)

The greater the exposure to liability for attorneys' fees and costs, the greater the incentive for the government not to act unreasonably. Decreasing the amount of compensation that is owed to plaintiffs would only act to decrease that incentive.

## Appellant is pro se.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of December 2014


HCR 67 RR Box 22
Shafter, TX. 79843-0022






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From:
Gene S. Groves,
HCR 67 RR Box 22
Shafter, TX 79843-0022

TOTAL PAGES ATTACHED: $1 \notin$

## CERTIFICATION OF HANDING THE PETITION TO THE VA GENERAL COUNSEL AND VA SECRETARY

I certify that I have delivered this Petition to the VA General Counsel, ATTN: Kenneth A. Walsh, Attorney, Office of General counsel, 810 Vermont Ave. N.W., Washington, DC. 20420 this $8^{\text {th }}$ day of Dec, 2014 before having delivered it to the Veterans Court, as required.

Signed:


## Gene S. Groves,

HCR 67 RR Box 22
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