

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR VETERANS CLAIMS**

JOHN L. FROST,)	
)	
Appellant,)	
)	
v.)	Vet.App. No. 15-3102
)	
ROBERT L. WILKIE,)	
Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs,)	
)	
Appellee.)	

**SECRETARY'S RESPONSE UNDER U.S. VET.APP. R. 39(a)
TO APPELLANT'S APPLICATION FOR
ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES**

Pursuant to U.S. Vet.App. Rule 39(a), Appellee Robert L. Wilkie, Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Secretary), responds to Appellant's application for an award of attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

Appellant's application satisfies the statute's jurisdictional requirements. 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(B). The Secretary concedes that Appellant has met the three predicate findings for an EAJA award: (1) Appellant is a "prevailing party"; (2) the Secretary's position was not "substantially justified"; (3) there are no "special circumstances" that would make an award unjust. 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d). The Secretary, for the sole purpose of avoiding further litigation and its costs, does not contest the reasonableness of Appellant's attorney fees or expenses, in the instant case, under the current case law up to the amount of \$13,445.21, the

amount the parties have agreed to after negotiations. See 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(C). The Secretary's concession here in no way denotes the Secretary's position as to any issue or matter presented herein which may potentially affect the litigation or settlement of future applications for attorney fees and costs filed with this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, respectfully responds to Appellant's application for the award of attorney fees and other expenses, and advises the Court that he does not contest an award in an amount deemed reasonable by the Court, up to \$13,445.21.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. BYRNE
General Counsel

MARY ANN FLYNN
Chief Counsel

/s/ Joan E. Moriarty
JOAN E. MORIARTY
Deputy Chief Counsel

/s/ William A. Hornbeck
WILLIAM HORNBECK
Appellate Attorney
Office of the General Counsel (027C)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
(202) 632-6928

Counsel for the Secretary of
Veterans Affairs