

**08-1322 ASTRUE V. RATLIFF**

DECISION BELOW: 540 F.3d 800

LOWER COURT CASE NUMBER: 07-2317

**QUESTION PRESENTED:**

Whether an "award of fees and other expenses" under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. 2412(d), is payable to the "prevailing party" rather than to the prevailing party's attorney, and therefore is subject to an offset for a pre-existing debt owed by the prevailing party to the United States.

CERT. GRANTED 9/30/2009