## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

ERIKA LYNN ELLEDGE, Plaintiff,

v.

No. 3:20-cv-01787 (SRU)

KILOLO KIJAKAZI, ACTING COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY, Defendant.

## ORDER GRANTING COMMISSIONER'S CONSENT MOTION FOR ENTRY OF JUDGMENT WITH REVERSAL AND REMAND

The defendant, Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration,<sup>1</sup> has moved to enter judgment under sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), with a reversal and remand of the cause to the Commissioner for further action. *See* Doc. No. 21. Counsel for the Commissioner represents that she has contacted Ivan M. Katz, Esq., counsel for plaintiff, who consents to the relief sought in the motion.

Under sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), I have the authority to enter a judgment with a reversal and remand of the cause to the Commissioner for further proceedings. *See Shalala v. Schaefer*, 509 U.S. 292, 297 (1993); *Melkonyan v. Sullivan*, 501 U.S. 89, 98 (1991). Remand for further development of the record is appropriate when gaps exist in the administrative record or when the administrative law judge ("ALJ") committed legal error. *See Parker v. Harris*, 626 F.2d 225, 235 (2d Cir. 1980).

Here, the Commissioner has determined that a remand of the case for additional administrative action is necessary. Upon remand, the Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") will

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On or about July 9, 2021, Kilolo Kijakazi became the acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration and is substituted for Andrew Saul as defendant in this action. *See* Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 25(d)(1).

offer the claimant an opportunity for a new hearing; use the correct analytical method for evaluating drug and alcohol abuse; reach a materiality finding if necessary; and take other necessary action to complete the record and issue a new decision. Accordingly, I **GRANT** the Commissioner's Consent Motion for Entry of Judgment Under Sentence Four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). The Clerk shall enter a judgment of reversal and remand under sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), and shall remand the case to the Commissioner for further proceedings consistent with the motion.

So ordered.

Dated at Bridgeport, Connecticut, this 22nd day of July 2021.

<u>/s/ STEFAN R. UNDERHILL</u> Stefan R. Underhill United States District Judge