

award reasonable attorney's fees and nontaxable costs that are authorized by law or by the parties' agreement." Here, the fees sought by Plaintiff are both authorized by law (for the reasons set forth in Plaintiff's brief) and agreed to by the parties. As part of the settlement of this matter, the parties have agreed to an award of \$30,000 in attorney's fees for Mr. Walker's counsel in lieu of a fee petition under 42 U.S.C. § 1988.

Based on the nearly five-year duration of this case and the Court's experience with this case and similar cases brought in the Northern District and Rome Division, the Court finds that the parties' agreed fee award of \$30,000 is well within the range of a reasonable fee award. The Plaintiff's motion for attorney's fees is hereby GRANTED. Defendant shall mail payment of attorney's fees to class counsel within 30 days of the date of this Order.

SO ORDERED this 25th day of February, 2020.

s/Steve C. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE