



UNITED STATES COURTS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT
OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE WAY - SUITE 3700
BOSTON, MA 02210

SUSAN J. GOLDBERG
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9614

FLORENCE PAGANO
DEPUTY CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9376

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel Attorneys

FROM: Susan J. Goldberg, Circuit Executive

DATE: January 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Increases to CJA Expert and Service Provider Rates in the First Circuit Court of Appeals

Effective February 1, 2025, the First Circuit Court of Appeals has adopted new rebuttable presumptive expert and service provider rates for vouchers filed under the CJA, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. See *infra* p. 2 for a comparison of the new rates and the previous rates. As to partners, associates, and contract attorneys, as defined in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit CJA Reference Manual, § V(B), in non-capital cases, compensation may be claimed for a non-CJA panel attorney at 80% of the prevailing appointed CJA counsel rate and for a CJA panel attorney at 100% of the appointed CJA counsel rate.¹ See Guide to Judiciary Policy, Vol. 7A, Ch. 2, § 230.16, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/administration-policies/judiciary-policies/guidelines-administering-cja-and-related-statutes-6>. Additionally, paralegals may be compensated at \$75 per hour, and translators at \$0.23 per source word. For interpreters, the Court adopted the prevailing overtime hourly rates for contract court interpreters as prescribed by the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. See Federal Court Interpreters, United States Courts, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/court-programs/federal-court-interpreters>.² Finally, the new photocopying rates are \$0.20 per page for outside vendors and \$0.15 per page for in-house photocopying.

¹ As of January 1, 2025, the hourly rate for Criminal Justice Act (CJA) appointed counsel in non-capital cases is \$175, and 80% of this hourly rate is \$140. See Guide to Judiciary Policy, Vol. 7A, Ch. 2, § 230.16, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/administration-policies/judiciary-policies/guidelines-administering-cja-and-related-statutes-6>.

² As of January 1, 2023, the prevailing overtime hourly rates for court interpreters are \$80 for federally certified interpreters, \$70 for professionally qualified interpreters, and \$44 for non-certified/language skilled interpreters. See Federal Court Interpreters, United States Courts, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/court-programs/federal-court-interpreters>.

For any services provided prior to February 1, 2025, the previous rates for these experts and services providers will apply. See U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, June 5, 2013 CJA Announcement, available at <https://www.ca1.uscourts.gov/sites/ca1/files/NoticeReCJABillingProcedures.pdf>, and *infra* p. 2.

	Rates for work performed on or after February 1, 2025	Rates for work performed before February 1, 2025³
Partners, associates, and contract attorneys in non-capital cases	Non-panel attorneys: 80% of the prevailing appointed CJA counsel hourly rate Panel attorneys: 100% of the prevailing appointed CJA counsel hourly rate ⁴	Non-panel attorneys: \$80 per hour Panel attorneys: \$90 per hour
Paralegals	\$75 per hour	\$35-50 per hour
Interpreters	The prevailing overtime hourly rates for contract court interpreters as prescribed by the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts ⁵	Non-certified interpreters: \$32 per hour Certified interpreters: \$55 per hour
Translators	\$0.23 per source word	\$0.165 per source word
Photocopying	Outside vendor: \$0.20 per page In-house: \$0.15 per page	\$0.10 per page regardless of vendor type

³ See U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, June 5, 2013 CJA Announcement, available at <https://www.ca1.uscourts.gov/sites/ca1/files/NoticeReCJABillingProcedures.pdf>.

⁴ See Guide to Judiciary Policy, Vol. 7A, Ch. 2, § 230.16, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/administration-policies/judiciary-policies/guidelines-administering-cja-and-related-statutes-6>.

⁵ See Federal Court Interpreters, United States Courts, available at <https://www.uscourts.gov/court-programs/federal-court-interpreters>.