

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT

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CLERK

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June 5, 2013

Dear First Circuit District Court and Appellate CJA Panel Members:

The Court of Appeals is grateful for the dedicated service you provide by representing persons unable to afford legal representation; it is essential to our adversary system of justice. To enable you to continue this important work, this letter is to inform you that, given the constraints on the federal budget, the following CJA billing policies have been adopted by the Court of Appeals:

- Appellate CJA counsel *must* seek advance authorization to bill for partners and associates to appear at oral argument or client conferences with CJA counsel. Although advance permission is not required for a partner or associate to attend these events at no cost, such attendance will not be compensated absent an advance authorization.
- While compensation may be claimed for services provided by a partner, associate, or a contract attorney hired with advance authorization, excessive conferencing time should be avoided. Only appointed CJA counsel should bill for conference time with these providers.
- Counsel may bill only for the actual time spent reviewing Notices of Docket Activity (NDAs) and Notices of Electronic Filings (NEFs).
- The following rebuttable presumptive maximum rates have been adopted:
  - ▶ for partners, associates, and contract attorneys: \$80/hour for non-panel members and \$90/hour for panel members;
  - ▶ paralegals: \$35-\$50/hour;
  - ▶ interpreting: \$55/hour for certified interpreters and \$32/hour for non-certified

interpreters; translating: \$.165  
per word;

- ▶ copying: \$.10 per page.

As noted, these rates are rebuttable presumptive maximums. Not every provider will warrant the full rate; but special circumstances (e.g., a special skill or knowledge) might warrant a higher rate. The court has enforced the foregoing translating and copy rates for some time. The foregoing interpreting rates are effective immediately; we remind you that you are not required to hire contract court interpreters for out-of-court conferences and encourage you to negotiate interpreting rates that do not exceed those noted above and provide the greatest value to the court. Finally, the presumptive maximum paralegal, partner/associate, and contract attorney rates will take effect on September 30, 2013 for work performed on or after that date.

We thank you in advance for your adherence to the foregoing measures. Please continue to monitor the "CJA Announcements" on the First Circuit's website for important CJA information. The announcements appear under the "Criminal Justice Act Materials" on the court's new webpage, i.e., <http://www.ca1.uscourts.gov/cja-announcements>.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Margaret Carter, Clerk