Fee and Expense Payment Process

11/1/2021

This schedule of fees concernS compensation of court-appointed counsel for indigent defendants and related expenses made pursuant to Article 26.05, Texas Rules of Criminal Procedure; therefore, it is ORDERED that compensation of court-appointed counsel and related expenses, made pursuant to a motion in the format prescribed by the appointing court, shall be as set out below on a case-by-case basis as determined by the judge. Due to the wide variety of circumstances that may be encountered in cases, total compensation for all pre-trial, trial, post-trial, and appellate court appointed counsel services shall be determined by the judge upon the circumstances and complexity of each case. The fees set out below may be adjusted as reasonably determined by the judge.

JUVENILE CASES	Non-trial disposition	$ 300.00
	Trial:	$500.00 per day (in trial)

Up to an additional $500.00 for preparation of the appeal at the rate of $50.00 per hour when approved by the trial judge, for either non-trial disposition or disposition by trial.

Expenses Incurred <u>Without</u> Prior Court Approval:

Expenses incurred without prior approval shall be reimbursed only if incurred expenses are reasonably necessary.

Appointed counsel may incur investigative or expert expenses without prior approval of the court in an amount not to exceed $250.00 in misdemeanor level cases and $500.00 in felony level cases. On presentation of a claim for reimbursement, the court shall order reimbursement to counsel for the expenses, if the incurred expenses are reasonably necessary. Unreasonable or unnecessary expenses will not be approved.

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES

Each attorney shall prepare an approved claim form as soon as practicable after conclusion of the case for payment of services and reimbursement of expenses. If additional funds are requested over and above the stated flat fee for standard services, a detailed statement the trial preparation services rendered must be submitted to the court for consideration. No payment shall be made until the judge approves payment after submission of attorney fee claim.

If the trial judge disapproves the requested amount, the judge shall make written findings stating the amount of payment approved and the reasons for approving an amount different from the requested amount. The attorney whose request for payment has been disapproved may, by written motion, file an appeal with the presiding judge of the administrative region.