

WALKER AND MADISON COUNTY FEE GUIDELINES

FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL IN FELONY CRIMINAL CASES

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 FOR SERVICES RENDERED ON OR AFTER THAT DATE

Pursuant to C.C.P. Art. 26.05, the following guidelines shall be used to claim attorney's fees for appointed counsel in criminal cases. The goal of these payment guidelines is to assure quality representation for indigent persons charged with felony crimes in Walker and Madison County. Those cases appropriate for trial should be tried and those appropriate for plea should be pled. Each judge reserves the right to deviate from these guidelines in particular cases where the amount or quality of work performed is substantially above or below the norm. Court appointed attorneys remain attorneys of record until final disposition of their cases, to include the filing of an Order of Expunction within thirty (30) days of the date of a verdict of "not guilty", unless a motion to withdraw or substitute counsel is granted.

FIXED RATES

Plea/dismissal	\$500	Add \$100.00 for each additional case
Hearing Motion to Suppress	\$90/hour with maximum of \$400	
Hearing MTA/MTR	\$300 preparation plus \$90/hour in trial	Add \$100 for each additional case
Final preparation if case goes to trial	\$750	Add \$100 for each additional case
Bench or jury trial	\$400/half day \$800/full day	
Appeal	\$90/hour minimum \$750 maximum \$3500	

HOURLY RATES

When a fixed rate is provided in the charge above, an hourly rate claim will not be approved without prior court approval. In the event the attorney anticipates significant expenditures of time, the attorney shall notify the Court as soon as possible that billing at the hourly rate is requested. On approval by the Court, claims for payment should reflect time expended to the nearest 1/10th of an hour. If an hourly rate is approved, an itemized statement reflecting the date, service performed, and time expended, must be submitted with the request for payment form. (Do not submit statements that include time for unanswered calls, setting appointments, preparing billing statements or travel from office to court or jail.) Approval by the Court shall be in accordance with the Indigent Defense Plan.

EXTRAORDINARY CASES

It is recognized that there are those cases which require an extra measure of work, such as those involving scientific investigations, complex forensics, significant documentation and other measures. Attorneys should submit those cases for approval on an hourly basis as described above only after prior court approval.