# STANDING ORDER AND FEE SCHEDULE FOR COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEYS APPOINTED TO REPRESENT INDIGENT DEFENDANTS IN THE 454<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

## (MEDINA COUNTY)

On the \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2023, the below named District Judge with felony criminal jurisdiction adopted this schedule of fees to be effective with regard to all felony cases filed subsequent to June 30, 2023, concerning compensation of court-appointed counsel for indigent defendants made pursuant to Article 26.05, Texas Rules of Criminal Procedure: Therefore it is ORDERED that compensation of court-appointed counsel made pursuant to an Attorney Fee Voucher in the format approved by the Judge of the 454<sup>th</sup> Judicial District shall be as follows on a case by case basis as approved by the Judge:

#### **TRIAL SERVICES:**

For trial services, counsel will be compensated on a flat fee basis. The amount of compensation will be based on the type of case as indicated in the schedule below. If an attorney wishes to seek compensation based on an hourly rate due to the complexity of the case involved (an hourly rate will not be grated in State Jail or 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree felonies unless such case is tried), the attorney must seek permission from the court prior to billing on an hourly basis. If an hourly rate is elected, the amount of hours billed may not exceed 8 hours in court (prior to trial) and 15 hours out of court without prior court approval.

#### **FLAT FEE:**

A.	Initial jail visit	\$65.00 (whether in person or conducted via video conference) \$130.00 (if defendant is housed out of county of jurisdiction)		
		.50.00 (ii defendant is noused out of county of jurisdiction)		
В.	Extradition	\$325.00		
C.	MTR,MTA	\$455.00		
D.	State Jail	\$555.00		
E.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree	\$625.00		
F.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree	\$825.00		
G.	1 <sup>st</sup> Degree	\$975.00		

H. <u>If a defendant is pleading in an additional felony case, or if another case is being taken into consideration, the attorney will be compensated \$265.00 for each additional case.</u>

If extraordinary motions are required to be prepared and disposed of by special setting, with prior court approval, counsel will be paid the appropriate hourly rate as set forth below for those services, in addition to the flat fee. The fee for the initial jail visit will be paid in addition to the applicable flat fees set forth in items B-G. The attorney must document the initial jail visit and

In capital cases in which the state seeks the death penalty, the rates for appellate attorney services shall be \$150.00 per hour and shall not exceed \$19,500.00.

In the event the attorney prepares for trial and has numerous hours of preparation to be billed and the case is pled before it goes to trial, the attorney may bill at an hourly rate but not to exceed \$1,500.00

The Court may make exception to the above rates upon a showing that the rate would be unfair in a given case.

THIS ORDER IS SIGNED ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF JUNE, 2023, AND IS EFFECTIVE IN ALL CASES FILED ON OR SUBSEQUENT TO June 30 2023, SAID ORDER SUPERCEDES ANY AND ALL PIOR STANDING ORDERS FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES COMPENSATION IN FELONY CASES.

Honorable Keith Lutz, Presiding Judge Medina County Court

Honorable Danny Kindred, Presiding Judge 454th Judicial District Court

# MEDINA COUNTY MISDEMEANOR, JUVENILE AND CIVIL ATTORNEY FEE SCHEDULE

On the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2023 the District Judge of the 454<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, the Medina County Court at Law and County Court Judges with criminal and/or juvenile jurisdiction, also being all the members of the Medina County Juvenile Board, unanimously adopted this schedule of fees concerning compensation of court-appointed counsel for indigent defendants in the Medina County Court at Law and the Medina County Court made pursuant to Article 26.05, Texas Rules of Criminal Procedure: Therefore, it is ORDERED that compensation of court-appointed counsel in misdemeanor and juvenile matters shall be as follows on a case-by-case basis as approved by the judge presiding over the case:

- I. Misdemeanor, Juvenile and Civil Services
  - A. Compensation for time spent by counsel out of court for misdemeanor, juvenile and civil appointments shall be SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$65.00) per hour. Time spent conferring on criminal misdemeanor and juvenile cases with the District Attorney or the defendant during a docket call and/or any pre-trial hearing will be compensated as time spent in court pursuant to paragraph B below. Administrative matters such as opening a file will not be compensated. Out of court time means reasonable and necessary time for conferences, negotiations and trial preparations.
  - B. Compensation for time spent in court shall be a fixed rate of ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$145.00) per defendant for the first court appearance, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$120.00) per defendant for the second court appearance and ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$100.00) per defendant for each subsequent court appearance. Jury selection and trial shall be compensated at ONE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$130.00) per day.
  - C. The maximum total compensation that will be paid for attorney's fees in a misdemeanor or juvenile case will not exceed FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$550.00), unless otherwise authorized.
  - D. Compensation for multiple cases (defendants with more than one case pending) will be as stated in A above not to exceed a maximum total compensation of FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$45.00) per each additional case.

- E. Compensation for attorney replaced prior to disposition will be paid at FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$50.00).
- F. The court may make exceptions to the above rates upon a showing that the rate would be unfair in a given case.

#### II. Appellate Services

- A. Appeals will be paid only on a fixed fee basis as follows: \$975.00 for appeal of a single case tried to a jury, \$650.00 for non-jury; \$1,300.00 for appeal of multiple cases on the same defendant tried to a jury, \$975.00 for non-jury.
- B. The court may make exceptions to the above rates upon a showing that the rate would be unfair in a given case.

## III. Request for Payment of Attorney's Fees

Each attorney shall submit an Attorney Fee Voucher completed in its entirety listing the time spent in court and for out of court services in the appropriate section of the form. Time reported for out of court services must include a description of the reasonable and necessary activity performed on behalf of the defendant and the date the services were rendered. The Attorney Fee Voucher shall be submitted to the trial judge using the approved voucher system:

- A. On the date of disposition of a case by a plea or bench trial; or
- B. Within 15 days of the date of verdict in a jury trial; or
- C. Within 15 days of the date the mandate being returned in an appeal; or at such other intervals as ordered by the Court.

Vouchers will be submitted as listed above but all request for payment must be made within the court's fiscal year, by September 15<sup>th</sup>, of the year the case has resolution. Invoices submitted outside the current fiscal year will not be paid without prior court approval.

THIS ORDER IS SIGNED ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF JUNE, 2023, AND IS EFFECTIVE IN ALL CASES FILED ON OR SUBSEQUENT TO JULY 1, 2023. SAID ORDER SUPERCEDES ANY AND ALL PRIOR STANDING ORDERS FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES COMPENSATION IN MISDEMEANOR AND JUVENILE CASES.

Honorable Keith Lutz, Presiding Judge

Medina County Court

Juvenile Board, Chairman

Honorable Mark Cashion, Presiding Judge

Medina County Court at Law

Juvenile Board

Honorable Danny Mindred, Presiding Judge

454th Judicial District Court

Juvenile Board