

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COCHISE**

FILED

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2022-018

**IN RE: GUIDELINES FOR COMPENSATION AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES OF
COURT APPOINTED PROFESSIONALS**

The guidelines set by previous administrative orders regarding the compensation of professionals appointed by the superior court and justice courts need to be modified; the compensation of counsel provided for indigent persons is set by Cochise County through the Office of the Indigent Defense Coordinator and it is not necessary to address it in an administrative order; therefore,

IT IS ORDERED:

- 1. COURT-APPOINTED INVESTIGATORS IN PROBATE, GUARDIANSHIP OR CONSERVATORSHIP CASES:** Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per investigation conducted and Report to Court submitted. Three hundred dollars (\$350.00) per case for Court Appointed Attorneys representing wards. Travel and other expenses are included in the rate.
- 2. COURT REPORTERS:** Nonemployee court reporters will be compensated at the rate of \$425 per day. Travel and other expenses are included in the daily rate, except lodging will be provided for court reporters located outside of Cochise County who are contracted with for two or more consecutive days.
- 3. INTERPRETERS:** Interpreters employed by the court may impose reasonable charges for their translation services in pending civil and criminal cases upon all persons including the offices of the public and legal defender and the county attorney but shall translate forms for the court and offices of the public defender, legal defender, contract and appointed counsel and the county attorney without charge. Forms desired to be translated shall be processed through the office of the court administrator.

Non-employee Spanish interpreter services shall be compensated as follows: three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) per day for work of more than three (3) hours begun in the morning and continuing after a noon recess; two hundred fifty dollars (\$ 250.00) for work of three hours or less whether begun in the morning or afternoon or through the noon recess period; and twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour for work performed after 5:00 p.m. Travel and other expenses are included in these rates.

- 4. PHYSICIANS/MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATORS:** Not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for Rule 11 examinations and reports, which shall be submitted with itemized billing; the usual charges in the community for physicians in the particular specialty of the witness for forensic services.
- 5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:** The court may order payment in excess of any of the hourly rates or payment caps, either on motion of a party or on the court's own initiative, if it appears

that the relevant service is not reasonably available within the limits stated in this Order. However, the rates enumerated within this order are deemed presumptively reasonable. If a party may be subject to an order to reimburse the court or otherwise to bear the cost of any service, the party's financial obligation is limited to the amounts stated in this Order, unless the party is given notice that the court is contemplating exceeding the limits stated in this Order and is further given an opportunity to be heard and to suggest alternatives. A party who has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard and to suggest alternatives may be ordered to reimburse the court or otherwise to bear the cost of any service at the hourly rate or with the payment cap set by the court. Prior court approval shall be required, which requirement may be waived only upon a showing of dire need or emergency.

- 6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:** The rates set forth above shall be effective for all court appointed services initiated after the date of this order. All previous administrative orders pertaining to compensation and reimbursement of court-appointed professionals are void and of no further effect.

DATED August 25, 2022.



TIMOTHY B. DICKERSON
Presiding Judge, Cochise County