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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER # 2005-00-03**

**RE: INCREASE IN COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY RATES;  
ADOPTION OF A FLAT RATE FOR GUARDIANSHIP, BAKER AND MARCHMAN  
CASES; INCLUSION OF EXAMINING COMMITTEE MEMBER RATES; AND  
SETTING OF AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**Whereas**, section 27.42, Florida Statutes, created in Chapter 2003-402, Laws of Florida and amended in Senate Bill 2962, passed by the 2004 Florida Legislature, directs each Circuit Article V Indigent Services Committee to develop a schedule of standard fees and expense allowances for the categories of cases specified in section 27.5303, Florida Statutes, consistent with the overall compensation rates in that section and within the amount of appropriated funds allocated by the Justice Administrative Commission to the circuit for this purpose;

**Whereas**, Circuit Administrative Order 2004-00-10, *Circuit Article V Indigent Services Committee for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, Effective July 1, 2004*, appointed the committee members to carry out the legislative responsibilities; and

**Whereas**, the Circuit Article V Indigent Services Committee has held public meetings to collect input on the qualifications and application process; the policy and procedures encompassing the circuit registries; the rates of compensation for court appointed counsel; cost containment measures for due process expenses impacting the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and has developed ideas and concepts into recommendations which are reflected in this Administrative Order;

**Whereas**, Administrative Order 2004-00-13, RE: APPLICATION PROCESS FOR CIRCUIT-WIDE REGISTRIES, USE AND MAINTENANCE OF REGISTRIES, AND DUE

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*Increase In Court Appointed Attorney Rates;  
Adoption Of A Flat Rate For Guardianship,  
Baker and Marchman Cases; Inclusion of  
Examining Committee Member Rates; and  
Setting Of An Effective Date*

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PROCESS COSTS, set up the original application process for the circuit registries, use of the registries, and due process costs of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit as passed by the circuit's Indigent Services Committee;

**Whereas**, through the feedback received by the ISC from judges, court appointed attorneys, and other circuits as evidenced by their revised administrative orders, the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit ISC determined it necessary to address the rates previously set for court appointed attorneys;

**Whereas**, further inquiry uncovered the need for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit to set rates for Examining Committee Members to assist in the process of invoices associated with their personal services;

**Now Therefore, it is ORDERED and ADJUDGED** that the following rate adjustments and inclusions are made effective for all cases assigned on or after the effective date of this order. This Administrative Order in no way obstructs the policies, procedures, and or other compensation rates set by Administrative Order 2004-00-13, which has been in effect since August 19, 2004.

#### **Compensation Rates for Court Appointed Counsel – General**

Court appointed attorneys shall be compensated at an hourly rate of \$100 for in and out of court legal services for those cases that they are under appointment up to the statutory caps set by section 27.5304, Florida Statutes. This rate is *inclusive* of normal business expenses such as photocopies, postage, and such other expenses as may be reasonably considered as an office expense.

Travel time at the hourly rate is allowed within the geographic boundaries of the circuit. Such time is not allowed outside the circuit unless stipulated specifically by court order. Travel reimbursement pursuant to section 112.061, Florida Statutes, is not allowed.

#### **Compensation Rates for Court Appointed Counsel – Capital Cases/Death Certified**

Court appointed attorneys who are selected as **lead counsel** shall be compensated at an hourly rate of \$125 for in and out of court legal services for those cases that they are under appointment up to the statutory caps set by section 27.5304, Florida Statutes. This rate is *inclusive* of normal business expenses such as photocopies, postage, and such other expenses as may be reasonably considered as an office expense.

Travel time at the hourly rate is allowed within the geographic boundaries of the circuit. Such time is not allowed outside the circuit unless stipulated specifically by court order. Travel reimbursement pursuant to section 112.061, Florida Statutes, is not allowed.

### Compensation Rates for Court Appointed Counsel – Flat Rate

Court appointed attorneys shall be compensated at a flat rate of \$550/case for each Guardianship, Baker, or Marchman case. If the case meets the legal definition of extraordinary and unusual, the court appointed attorney can request an order from the judge to be paid at the standard hourly rate of \$100 for in and out of court legal services for the case in question. This rate is *inclusive* of normal business expenses such as photocopies, postage, and such other expenses as may be reasonably considered as an office expense.

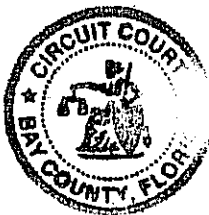
Travel time at the hourly rate is allowed within the geographic boundaries of the circuit. Such time is not allowed outside the circuit unless stipulated specifically by court order. Travel reimbursement pursuant to section 112.061, Florida Statutes, is not allowed.

### Compensation Rates for Examining Committee Members

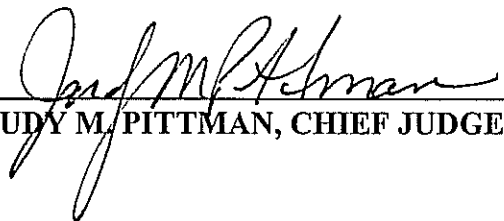
Examining Committee Members who are appointed to examine an incapacitated person who is indigent shall be compensated at the following rates:

- ▶ The Examining Committee Member who is the Medical Doctor or Psychologist shall be compensated at a rate \$250; and
- ▶ The remaining two Examining Committee Members shall be compensated at a rate of \$100.

**DONE and ORDERED** in Chambers at Panama City, Bay County, Florida this 18 day of May, 2005, effective for cases assigned on or after May 6, 2005, nunc pro tunc.



A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY  
OF  
JUDICIAL ORDER  
BY  
NANDA MADDES  
Deputy Clerk

  
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JUDY M. PITTMAN, CHIEF JUDGE