

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF IDAHO

In Re: Criminal Justice Act Rates for )  
Out-of-Court Interpreters, Translation Services ) General Order No. 253  
Other Expert Services and Case Budgeting )  
and Voucher System )  
)

Effective February 9, 2011, the following billing rates and policies shall be applied to Criminal Justice Act (“CJA”) cases and the electronic voucher system shall be used to request payment for expert and other services.

Out-of-Court Interpreter Services:

The standard hourly rate of compensation for interpreters contracted to provide expert services to attorneys appointed under the CJA for out-of-court services will be as follows:

Certified	\$60.00 per hour
Non-Certified	\$50.00 per hour

The maximum daily amount to be paid for such out-of-court services shall be no more than six hours (\$360 for certified and \$300 for non-certified). Travel time to and from the appointment shall be included in the daily hour totals claimed and will be paid at the same standard hourly rate listed above. Mileage expenses are reimbursed at the current CJA rate. These rates shall be applied on a daily basis regardless of the number of attorneys or defendants for which the services are performed. Interpreter services provided before or after an in-court proceeding shall be claimed as in-court services. In-court services are paid at the rate governed by the annual contract between the interpreter and the Court.

Upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances necessitating out-of-court interpreter services in excess of the maximum daily limits, CJA counsel can move the Court for relief from the maximum daily limits. Such motion shall be made prior to utilizing interpreter services where counsel can reasonably foresee that out-of-court interpreter services will be necessary.

Document Translation:

The rate for translation of documents<sup>1</sup> is as follows:

- \$150 per 1,000 words for general material
- \$155 per 1,000 words for semi-technical material
- \$170 per 1,000 words for technical material

For small documents of 400 words or less, the standard hourly rate of compensation for interpreter services, \$60.00 per hour for certified and \$50.00 per hour for non-certified, will apply. If document translation services will exceed the statutory limitation for services without prior court approval, the CJA counsel must file an application requesting court authorization of the document translation services.

Since the language of the Courts is English, translations of documents will be in English. If a non-English-speaking defendant needs to be advised of the content of an English-language document, this should be done by means of sight translation.

Other Expert Services:

Counsel are expected to negotiate reasonable hourly rates with service providers depending on market rates in the District of Idaho. In no event may the hourly rates exceed those set forth below without prior court approval. In the interests of justice, the presiding judge may find that the timely procurement of necessary services could not await prior authorization of rates that exceed the maximum rates established in this General Order. If expert services will exceed the statutory limitation for services without prior court approval, the CJA counsel must file an application requesting authorization for the services exceeding the statutory limitation. The listed hourly rates do not include reasonable expenses associated with expert services which are also subject to reimbursement.

Expert Service  
Paralegal<sup>2</sup>

Hourly Rates  
Up to \$45

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<sup>1</sup>The document translation rates are based on the rates prescribed by the United States Department of State, Office of Language Services, Translating Division as of 2009.

<sup>2</sup>Tasks which will be reimbursed at the paralegal rate include transcript summarization, subjective coding of documents, internet and legal research, client contact, drafting and analysis, review and collection of medical, criminal history, sentencing mitigation and other records.

Document Technician <sup>3</sup>	\$15 to \$25
Investigator <sup>4</sup>	Up to \$75
Mitigation Specialist (non-testifying)	\$60 to \$100
Psychiatrists, Neurologists and medically licensed experts (non-testifying)	\$150 to \$200
Forensic Experts	Up to \$200
Psychologists (with Ph.D.)	Up to \$200
Accountants (C.P.A.)	\$125 - \$250
Accountant (not a C.P.A.)	\$65 to \$100
Computer Forensic Experts	Up to \$150
Attorneys serving as experts	Up to \$150
Chemist	Up to \$100
DNA Expert	Up to \$150
Fingerprint Expert	Up to \$100
Handwriting Expert	Up to \$100
Polygraph Examiner	\$80 to \$100

Case Budgeting:

CJA Counsel are expected to file a proposed case budget with the presiding judge for any pre-trial representation anticipated to exceed 300 attorney hours or \$30,000 in fees and costs paid by CJA funds for appointed counsel and services other than counsel.

Voucher Submission:

The CJA forms 21/31 “Authorization and Voucher for Expert and Other Services” shall be used to bill for interpreter, translation and other expert services. All CJA vouchers must be certified by the court-appointed attorney prior to submission to the Clerk’s Office for approval and payment.

Nothing in this General Order is intended to restrict the authority of the court to approve variations as needed in a particular case.

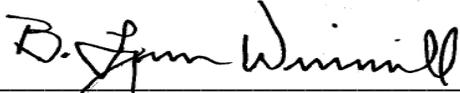
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<sup>3</sup>Tasks which will be reimbursed at the document technician rate include filing, indexing and transmittal of documents. The need for document technician services is intended for cases with voluminous written discovery and is not intended to cover normal administrative staff support included in the CJA attorney’s hourly billing rate.

<sup>4</sup>This General Order contemplates higher hourly rates for investigators who possess necessary foreign language expertise.

This General Order supercedes General Order No. 225.

DATED this 9th day of February, 2011.



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B. Lynn Winmill, Chief District Judge



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Candy W. Dale Chief Magistrate  
Judge