

## G. GRIMES COUNTY FEE GUIDELINES

### FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL IN FELONY CRIMINAL CASES

EFFECTIVE March 1, 2026 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 felony criminal cases. The goal of these payment guidelines is to assure quality representation for indigent persons charged with felony crimes in Grimes 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 or work performed is substantially above or below the norm. Court appointed attorneys remain attorneys of record until final disposition of their cases unless a motion to withdraw or substitute counsel is granted.

#### PAYMENT GUIDELINE

<b>INDICTED CASES PLEA/DISMISSAL:</b>		
First/Second Degree	\$1,750.00	Add \$100.00 for each additional case or count
Third Degree/State Jail	\$1,000.00	Add \$100.00 for each additional case or count
Declined/Rejected	\$100.00	Add \$100.00 for each additional case or count
<b>NONJURY CONTESTED HEARINGS/BENCH TRIALS</b>		
Preparation	\$100 per hour not to exceed \$500.00	
Contested Hearings/ Bench Trials	\$100.00 per hour per day in Court not to exceed \$1,000.00	
<b>JURY TRIALS</b>		
Jury Trial Preparation if case goes to trial	\$100.00 per hour not to exceed \$2,000.00	No additional payment for additional cases or counts
Jury Trial	\$100.00 per hour per day in Court not to exceed \$4,000.00	No additional payment for additional cases or counts
Appeal	\$200.00 per hour not to exceed \$3,500.00	
<b>BILINGUAL ATTORNEY STIPEND</b>		
Bilingual Attorney Stipend (in addition to fees as listed above)	\$100 per defendant	

### **EXTRAORDINARY CASES**

It is recognized that there are those cases which require an extra measure of work, such as those involving complex criminal cases, scientific investigations, complex forensics, significant documentation, and other issues. **IN THE EVENT THE ATTORNEY ANTICIPATES SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURES OF TIME, THE ATTORNEY SHALL NOTIFY THE COURT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT BILLING AT AN HOURLY RATE IS REQUESTED.** OTHERWISE, THE ATTORNEY WILL BE COMPENSATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FIXED OR HOURLY RATE STATED IN THE CHART PROVIDED ABOVE. EXCEPT FOR THE HOURLY RATE STATED IN THE CHART PROVIDED ABOVE, ANY OTHER HOURLY RATE REQUEST MUST BE PREAPPROVED BY THE COURT OR THE REQUEST WILL BE DENIED AND THE HOURLY RATE IN THE CHART WILL BE PAID. ALSO, WHEN A FIXED RATE IS PROVIDED IN THE CHART ABOVE AND THERE HAS BEEN NO PREAPPROVAL FROM THE COURT TO VARY FROM THAT FIXED RATE AMOUNT, THE FIXED RATE AMOUNT WILL BE PAID AND THE REQUEST TO VARY FROM THE FIXED RATE WILL BE DENIED.

If the Court does honor a request to vary from the chart provided above regarding compensation, any and all 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 along with proof of prior approval by the Court. All claims for compensation must comply with the Grimes County Indigency Defense Plan.

### **EXPENSES**

Court appointed counsel will be compensated for necessary expenses as provided in the Plan.

### **REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT:**

Request for payment forms shall be submitted within 30-days after the time the case is disposed of except for trials. Failure to submit vouchers in a timely manner may result in non-payment.

Payment for all of a single defendant(s) cases should be requested on one form.

Payment for expenses such as investigators and expert witnesses should be requested on a separate form by the Attorney.

All vouchers shall be e-filed with the District Clerks Office.

The judge presiding over the case for which the appointed attorney seeks compensation shall either approve the amount requested or enter written findings stating the amount of payment that the judge approves and each reason for approving an amount different from the requested amount.

An attorney whose request for payment is disapproved may appeal the disapproval by filing a motion with the presiding judge of the administrative judicial region as provided under Article 26.05© of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. A copy of these Guidelines should accompany the appeal.

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David W. Moorman  
Judge, 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

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Gary W. Chaney  
Judge, 506<sup>th</sup> Judicial District