

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

FILED

FEB 26 2019

IN RE: THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL AND
OTHER SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT, 18 U.S.C. §3006A

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BY WFS
DEPUTY

**AMENDED ORDER
REGARDING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF ATTORNEYS
IN THE CJA PANEL MENTORING PROGRAM**

Before the Court is the Amended Criminal Justice Act Plan for the Western District of Texas (July 24, 2018) (“Amended CJA Plan”). Section VIII(B)(f) of the Amended CJA Plan authorizes the establishment of mentoring programs in each division of the District, under which members of the Divisional CJA Panel Committee would review the panel attorney applications and otherwise identify viable candidates who are lacking federal criminal experience. Once identified, the committee may assign the applicant to work with an experienced CJA panel member in a designated case, allowing the panel member to serve as a mentor to the applicant. A mentoring program of the sort contemplated by the Amended CJA Plan has been in place in the San Antonio Division since 2009.

This Standing Order concerns the issue of compensation under the San Antonio Division mentoring program. Under § XII(C) of the Amended CJA Plan, the Court may provide compensation for mentee attorneys, either (1) at the prevailing hourly CJA rate when the mentee is appointed as second counsel in appropriate cases as determined by the Court; or (2) under the CJA at a reduced rate with prior authorization by the Court. In the San Antonio Division, it is not the general practice for mentee attorneys to be appointed as second counsel. However, the Court finds that it is appropriate to continue to provide compensation for mentee attorneys at a reduced rate, in

accordance with the Division's longstanding practice.

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED** that any official mentee approved by the Committee to participate in the mentoring program may request reimbursement under the following limitations:

- (1) the reimbursement may not exceed \$75 per hour;
- (2) the reimbursement may not exceed the maximum for reimbursement provided in 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(e)(3);
- (3) reimbursement will not be approved for any mentee services that duplicate the work of the mentor; and
- (4) the reimbursement request must be approved and submitted by the mentor attorney, using the "other" services section of Form AO CJA 21.

Adopted and approved by the judges of this court on this the 26 day of February,

2019.



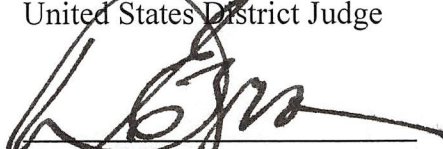
Orlando L. Garcia
Chief United States District Judge



Xavier Rodriguez
United States District Judge



Fred Biery
United States District Judge



David A. Ezra
Senior United States District Judge