Case Budgeting Assistance

Once it is reasonably apparent to CJA counsel that the cost of representation for a defendant will likely exceed 150 attorney hours (or $23,250 based on the current CJA rate of $155/hour), the court may request development of a complete or staged budget for the defendant’s representation. Budgeting is accomplished with the assistance of the CJA Supervising Attorney. Cases that will likely exceed 300 hours ($46,500) may require consultation with the Ninth Circuit’s Case Budgeting Attorney. Budgeting is mandatory for capital cases and cases expected to exceed $100,000 in combined costs.

Ninth Circuit Case Management and Budgeting Policy

Resources - Contacts

Non-Capital Cases
Darrel J. Gardner
CJA Supervising Attorney for WAED
509-458-3423
darrel_gardner@waed.uscourts.gov

Capital Cases
Kristine Fox
415-355-8985
kfox@ce9.uscourts.gov

Defender Services Office: https://www.fd.org/

Budget Submission

Case budgets should be submitted using the WAED Litigation Planning Form (link follows) via eVoucher as an uploaded attachment to a CJA-26 voucher. Use the Litigation Planning Form available on the court’s CJA web page under “Manuals/Instructions/Forms.” Provide the form to the CJA Supervising Attorney for review and consultation prior to submitting the form in eVoucher.

CJA Guidelines

WAED Criminal Justice Act Plan.
