

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court
County of Lassen

FEB 23 2026

GENERAL ORDER
2026-02

BY:  L. NIEMEYER
DEPUTY CLERK

REVISED HOURLY RATES FOR COUNSEL APPOINTED TO REPRESENT
INDIGENT PARTIES IN JUVENILE DEPENDENCY PROCEEDINGS

This General Order establishes revisions to the compensation rates for counsel appointed to represent indigent parties in Juvenile Dependency proceedings, as set forth in Local Rules of Court, Rule 19.4(b).

Amendment to Subsection (b)

Subsection (b) of Rule 19.4 is amended to read:

- (b) Fees for Counsel Appointed to Represent Indigent Parties in Juvenile Dependency Proceedings.** Court-appointed counsel, other than counsel employed by a public entity, for a parent or minor in any juvenile dependency proceeding shall be compensated as follows:

~~\$90.00~~ 115.00 per hour

Counsel accepting appointments in a juvenile dependency proceeding shall be in compliance with the Juvenile Dependency rules outlined in Rule 3 of the Local Rules of Court.

Counsel accepting appointments under this rule shall do so with a clear understanding that the court will make an independent determination of the necessity and justification for hours spent and may reduce a claim for hours or travel found not to be necessary for the purpose of the appointment or spent on unfounded motions or procedures. In reviewing fee claims, the court will consider the time spent and amount claimed with reference to the following:

- (i) Customary fees in the locality.
- (ii) Time reasonably required for the matter.
- (iii) Difficulty of the defense.
- (iv) Unusual legal issues dealt with.
- (v) Degree of professional skill and experience required and exercised by counsel.

- (vi) The professional character, qualification, and standing of the attorney.

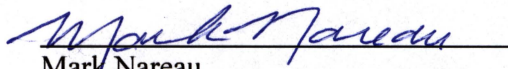
Assigned counsel shall submit a COURT fee claim upon a form provided for that purpose by the Court, with all information requested thereon. Incremental billing on a monthly or quarterly basis following completion of services is preferred.

Assigned counsel traveling over 50 miles one way from their primary business office or residence for an in-person appearance may claim mileage reimbursement for the round-trip distance at the current federal mileage rate and up to 2 hours of total travel time per travel occurrence, at the applicable defense rate for the case type of the appointment. Travel time compensation is capped at 2 hours per day and cannot be billed separately for each case.

This amendment is intended to be incorporated into a future revision of the Superior Court of California, County of Lassen's Local Rules of Court, effective July 1, 2026. Upon successful implementation into the Local Rules of Court, this General Order shall be deemed automatically revoked and rescinded.

This General Order does not preclude nor restrict the Court from adopting additional future changes to compensation rates or related provisions, whether by subsequent General Order or further amendments to the Local Rules of Court.

Dated: February 23, 2026


Mark Nareau
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court