

Criminal Justice Act Plan

Criminal Justice Act (CJA) of 1964, as amended,
18 U.S.C. § 3006A and *Guide to Judiciary Policy (Guide)*, Volume 7A

CJA Plan Overview



Last updated: 2005 (Review: 5 years)



2017 Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Criminal Justice Act



New Plan: 2019

Appointment of Counsel

Old Plan:

Target Representation: DISCRETIONARY.
Ancillary Matters: not addressed.

New Plan:

Target representation: MANDATORY.
Ancillary Matters: specifically provided for.

Presentation of the accused

Duties of Law Enforcement

- Old Plan: “Assist” with CJA-23 vs. New Plan: strict prohibition and notify court.

Duties of United States Attorney

- Old Plan: None vs. New Plan: notify court/FPD and strict prohibition on CJA-23.

Duties of Probation Office

- Old Plan: 30 minutes rule vs. New Plan: MUST explain right to counsel and provide notice.

Vouchers

- Standard:

Old Plan:

General policy vouchers not reduced.
CJA counsel “shall be notified” and
given opportunity to respond.

New Plan:

Reductions “limited to mathematical
errors...work not compensable...and
instances in which hours billed clearly
in excess of what was required.”

CJA Voucher Review Process

Old Plan: No independent review.

New Plan: CJA Review Committee

- 1.) Seek review from presiding judge. (14 days).
- 2.) Seek reconsideration from CJA Review Committee. (14 days)
 - Composition of CJA Review Committee.
 - Written recommendation to presiding judge.

New Plan: Case Budgeting Attorney

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WHEN.



WHY.



BENEFITS.

Mentoring Program

Old Plan:

No mentoring program.

New Plan:

Experienced CJA panel members may be appointed to help prepare viable candidates to qualify for panel service.

Goals for future.