

February 23, 2005

Dear Panelist,

This letter covers the following topics:

- Interim Vouchers
- Regular Vouchers
- Use of pre 2004 Form Orders for Experts
- Felony Knockdowns
- Upcoming C.L.E. Programs
- I D V Court

INTERIM VOUCHERS

Given the increasing number of specialized courts where defendants' cases are adjourned for lengthy periods for treatment purposes, I am changing the rules on voucher submissions.

From now on, attorneys who represent a defendant in the Family Treatment Court may submit an interim voucher after the dispositional phase and a final voucher after graduation or, in the alternative, when permanency has been achieved.

Attorneys who represent a defendant in the Drug Treatment Court may submit an interim voucher after the plea is taken and a final voucher after graduation or completion.

Attorneys who represent a defendant in a DTAP case may submit an interim voucher after the plea is taken and a final voucher when the plea is vacated or the defendant sentenced.

Please remember that your representation of such defendants **continues** after the interim voucher has been submitted and that it is your responsibility to appear on behalf of your client during the treatment period whenever the Court determines that your presence is required. You will be compensated for such appearances when you submit your final voucher.

REGULAR VOUCHERS

Remember, whenever you submit vouchers of any kind, that you must submit them to us, as well as any riders, **in duplicate**.

USE OF PRE 2004 FORM ORDERS FOR EXPERTS

I am still receiving copies of form orders for experts that state “not to exceed \$300”. Unless the Court specifically requires such limiting language, let’s get rid of it. The new statutory cap for experts is \$1000.

FELONY KNOCKDOWNS

If you are on the Felony Panel but not the Misdemeanor Panel, and you pick up a felony in Part 9 that gets knocked down to a misdemeanor, you should continue on that case in District Court until disposition. As a Felony Panelist you are automatically eligible to handle the misdemeanor aspect of the case.

UPCOMING CLE PROGRAMS

In May of this year, we will be offering two free CLE programs to all 18B attorneys instead of one. The first is on the Functions of the Specialized Drug Courts and will be held on May 4th from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The second is on Client Centered Representation, and I strongly urge all 18B Panelists, both Family Court and Criminal Court, to attend. Client centered representation is a fascinating and important subject and I am sure will leave you wondering why they never taught you this in law school. This program will be held on May 23rd, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Please mark both dates on your calendar.

INTEGRATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT

Training for the Integrated Domestic Violence Court has been completed, and 65 Panelists have been qualified to serve there. If you are one of them, you received a recent notice from me to that effect. If you are not and if you would like to qualify for the IDV Court, you should communicate with me, in order to view the videotapes of the training seminars you missed. I should have these tapes by the end of February.

Thank you for your continued 18B service

Very truly yours,

Patrick L. McCloskey