

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
IN THE 16<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT

In re: MAACS Pilot Project

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Local Administrative Order 2015 - 05

**IT IS ORDERED:**

This administrative order is issued in accordance with MCR 8.112(B). Effective October 1, 2015, and lasting for one year unless extended by the Court, the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court will participate in a MAACS regional pilot project as authorized by Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2015-9 and subject to the standard attorney fee and expense policy approved by the Appellate Defender Commission (attached).

Any portion of LAO 2014-01, In re: Appointment of Counsel for Indigent Parties, that is inconsistent with this Order is rescinded until expiration of this LAO.

Effective Date:

Date:

10-13-15



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James M. Biernat, Jr.  
Chief Judge  
16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court

**MAACS Regional Pilot Project  
Standard Attorney Fee and Expense Policy**

*\* As Authorized by MSC Admin. Order 2015-9 and approved by Appellate Defender Commission*

Hourly Rate (Legal, Administrative, Investigative)

Level I cases:                      \$50 per hour

Level II and III cases:            \$75 per hour

Presumptive Maximum Fees\*

Plea-based appeals:                15 hours (\$750 Level I; \$1125 Levels II, III)

Trial-based appeals:               45 hours (\$2250 Level I; \$3375 Levels II, III)

\*The presumptive maximum fee represents the maximum number of hours that will be presumed reasonably necessary. Requests for fees beyond the presumptive maximum must be accompanied by a motion explaining why the case reasonably required additional effort. Potential grounds for excess fees include, but are not limited to, lengthy trials, complex legal issues, fact investigation, and trial court litigation.

Travel

Travel will be reimbursed at a rate of \$50 per hour plus mileage with documentation, and will not count toward the presumptive maximum fee.

Expenses

Necessary expenses will be reimbursed with documentation. Printing and copying will be reimbursed at \$0.10 per page, and shall include providing the trial court record to a client if counsel deems it necessary to the representation or to maintaining the health of the attorney-client relationship.

Time for Billing

Requests for reimbursement may be submitted after the filing of the appellate brief or other substantial pleading, at the conclusion of the representation, or both.

Method of Billing

Requests for reimbursement shall include a detailed accounting of all time and expenses, with time reported in 1/10-hour increments and specifying the dates and types of services.

Denials and Reductions

A denial or reduction of an attorney fee request shall be explained in a statement of reasons.