



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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Director, Leadership Support Services

November 23, 2020

Ms Laurel Thorpe, Executive Director
Central California Appellate Program
2150 River Drive, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95833

Dear Ms Thorpe:

As you will recall, in April 2020, in response to requests by the Executive Directors of the California Appellate Court Appointed Counsel Project Offices (Project Offices) and the Board of California Appellate Defense Counsel, the Judicial Council Appellate Court Appointed Counsel Program agreed to allow submission of early interim claims on cases, in recognition of the financial stresses and cashflow interruptions caused by adjusting to the state of emergency related to COVID-19. These additional interim claims provisions are currently set to expire on December 15, 2020. Because of the continuing workflow interruptions related to COVID-19 we are extending the ability to submit early interim claims, as outlined below, through the end of this fiscal year, to June 30, 2021.

We will continue to allow an early interim claim for hours on Line 2 on the claim form, “Record Review,” (1) where the record length exceeds 1,500 pages, or (2) where counsel has been waiting for an augmented or corrected record longer than 90 days. In addition, we are going to allow an additional interim claim to be submitted after the Reply Brief is filed for hours on Line 8, “Reply Brief” and Line 10, “Review of Opposing Brief.”

The Project Offices should continue to use the Claim Detail Type “COVID-19 Related” in the District Courts of Appeal— Court Appointed Counsel System when submitting an early interim

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claim under these circumstances. In addition, if an early interim claim is submitted because counsel has been waiting more than 90 days for an augmented or corrected record a notation(s) of “>90 days” should continue to be made on Line 4, “Motions to Augment,” and/or on Line 5, “Other Motions” for supplemental record rule 8.403(b) motions.

We hope that this will continue to provide you and the panel attorneys that provide such critical services to the people of California flexibility and additional financial stability in these extraordinary times. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Speed", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Laura E. Speed, Director
Leadership Support Services

cc: Ms Elaine Alexander, Executive Director, Appellate Defenders, Inc.
Mr. Rick Lennon, Executive Director, California Appellate Project/LA
Mr. Patrick McKenna, Executive Director, Sixth District Appellate Program
Mr. Jonathan Soglin, Executive Director, First District Appellate Project
Hon. Jon B. Streeter, Chair, Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee
Mr. John A. Larson, Manager, Judicial Council Appellate Court Appointed Counsel Program