

# GRIMES COUNTY COURT AT LAW

## FEE GUIDELINES FOR MISDEMEANOR CRIMINAL CASES

EFFECTIVE 10/1/2024 FOR SERVICES SUBMITTED AFTER THAT DATE

Pursuant to Art. 26.05 CCP, the following guidelines shall be used to claim attorney's fees for appointed counsel in misdemeanor criminal cases in the Grimes County Court at Law. The Court reserves the right to deviate from these guidelines in specific cases where the amount of work or the complexity of the case is significantly greater than the normal.

Plea and sentence on day of appointment	\$600	Add an additional \$125.00 per case or count
Plea or sentence after day of appointment and before trial announcement	\$600	Add an additional \$125.00 per case or count
Preparation for Bench or Jury trial if case is on final trial list	\$750 plus trial fee if case goes to trial	Add an additional \$125.00 per case or count
Contested pretrial Motions such as Motion to suppress including hearing on Motions to Revoke or Motions to Adjudicate	\$125.00/hr up to a maximum of \$750.00.	No additional for extra counts or cases
Preparation of MTA/MTR if there is a hearing	\$300.00 plus hearing fee	Add \$125 for each additional count or case
Bench Trial	\$125.00/hr up to \$750.00/day	No additional fee per count or case
Jury Trial	\$125.00/hr up to \$750.00/day	No additional fee per count or case
Appeal after trial	\$1600.00 minimum	
Appeal after Plea	\$1200.00 minimum	
FELONY REDUCED TO MISDEMEANOR *	FEE BASED ON DISTRICT COURT FEE SCHEDULE	

\*If Counsel is appointed on a Felony case by the District Court but the case is subsequently disposed of as a misdemeanor in County Court at Law, Counsel will be paid according to the Felony Fee schedule

### **HOURLY RATES (125.00/hour):**

**Generally, hourly rates will not be approved.** The fee schedule above contemplates the usual work necessary to reach each stage of trial including setting up files, sending normal correspondence, communication with clients, communication

with opposing counsel, review of discovery, filing of standard pretrial motions and court appearances.

**When a fixed rate is provided, an hourly rate will not, normally, be approved.** The Court understands that some cases may involve significantly more time expenditures than the average misdemeanor. If Counsel believes a case is qualifies, they should notify the Court as soon as possible that hourly billing is requested. **HOURLY RATE MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE.** If hourly rates are approved, counsel must submit an itemized statement reflecting the date, service performed, and time expended with the request for payment form.

**EXTRAORDINARY CASES:**

Although rare in misdemeanor cases, the Court recognizes there are some cases requiring significantly more work than a typical misdemeanor case. These include cases involving scientific investigation, forensic financial investigations, large amounts of documents or other such measures. If Counsel believes a case falls into this category, they should submit those cases for payment on an hourly basis **ONLY AFTER PRIOR APPROVAL.**

**EXPENSES:**

Court appointed counsel will be reimbursed for necessary expenses. Request for experts or investigators must be approved in advance. Requests for experts or investigators may be made ex parte.

**REQUEST FOR PAYMENT:**

Request for payment forms should be submitted via e-file within 30 days after the disposition of the case except in trials. If the Request for Payment is not timely filed, the Court reserves the right to deny the Request or cut the fee.

A payment voucher should be submitted for each defendant.

Payment for Investigators or Experts should be presented on a separate form.

Signed and approved this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

---

Tuck McLain  
Judge – County Court at Law  
Grimes County, Texas