

MAR 30 2020

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION

JAMES N. HATTEN, Clerk
By: *[Signature]* Deputy Clerk

In Re:

**CJA Panel Attorneys Interim
Compensation**

**GENERAL ORDER NO.
20-05**

This Court's General Order No. 20-01 limits certain Court operations in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. As part of the response, all jury trials have been continued. With exceptions for certain criminal duty matters, the timing of other matters in criminal proceedings have been continued or delayed, subject to individual judges presiding over criminal proceedings taking such actions consistent with General Order 20-01 as may be lawful and appropriate to ensure the fairness of the proceedings and preserve the rights of the parties.

Many criminal defendants in the Northern District of Georgia are represented by CJA Panel Attorneys. Under Section X of the District's CJA Plan, CJA Panel Attorneys may only submit claims for compensation after final disposition of the case, unless good cause is shown. Interim payments are typically sought and approved for extended and complex matters only.

In order to mitigate the potential financial hardship that exigent circumstances relating to COVID-19 may pose to attorneys appointed under the Criminal Justice Act, this Court finds good cause, effective March 30, 2020, to authorize CJA Panel

Attorneys to submit interim vouchers for services rendered in all pending matters. An initial interim voucher may be submitted no sooner than six (6) months after the date of appointment and the amount of the interim voucher is greater than \$1,000. Subsequent interim vouchers may be submitted when the current interim voucher amount is greater than \$3,000 and no sooner than two (2) months after the date of the previously submitted interim voucher. The Court reserves the right to delay or withhold payment on any interim voucher.

This Order is temporary only and shall remain in effect until further Order of the Court, or the vacating of General Order 20-01, whichever is earlier.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this the 30 day of March, 2020.


THOMAS W. THRASH, JR.
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE