

APPENDIX 2 – SERVICE PROVIDER HOURLY RATES

VIII. APPENDIX 2 – SERVICE PROVIDER HOURLY RATES

The below table encompasses district variances within the Ninth Circuit and the revised experience-based hourly rate ranges approved by the Judicial Conference Committee on Defender Services in June 2019. For paralegals, investigators, and capital-case mitigation specialists only, the low end of the below range is the circuit’s presumptive maximum. Compensation above this rate is reserved for paralegals, investigators, and capital-case mitigation specialists with extraordinary skills or to address unusual difficulties with availability of these providers. Courts may develop district-specific presumptive rates in excess of the circuit’s maximums only if approved by the Ninth Circuit Chief Judge and may approve an excess rate in an individual case upon a showing of good cause, as explained in Section V of these policies.

Accident Reconstruction	\$150 – \$200	
Accountant	\$150 – \$275	
Attorney Expert – Capital	CJA Hourly Rate	
Attorney Expert – Non-Capital	CJA Hourly Rate	E.g., immigration law expert.
Audio, Video, Photo Analyst	\$100 – \$200	
Ballistics/Firearms Expert	\$200 – \$300	
Chemist/Toxicologist (non-M.D.)	\$175 – \$275	
Crime Scene/Police Practices/Use-of-Force Expert	\$150 – \$250	
Document Translation	16.5 cents per word	Rate prescribed by the United States Department of State, Office of Language Services, Translation Division for non-technical translation.
Document Transcription	\$3.65 per page	Contract court reporter rate (without foreign translation) for non-automated transcription services.
DNA	\$150 – \$250	
Fingerprint Analyst	\$150 – \$250	
Forensic Computer/Cellphone	\$150 – \$250	
Gang Expert	\$150 – \$200	
Handwriting Analyst	\$150 – \$250	
Interpreter/Translator	\$30 – \$80	Range accommodates both certified and non-certified providers. Half-day rate is \$226 for certified and \$111 for non-certified.
Investigator	\$75 – \$125	Rates above \$75 reserved for those with case-needed foreign language fluency, capital case expertise, mastery of one or more relevant areas of forensic science (e.g., forensic psychology or digital forensics), or a high level of investigative experience (particularly in the type of alleged offense).
Jury Consultant	\$150 – \$225	
Law Student	\$15 – \$25	
Legal Analyst/Consultant (Non-Attorney)	\$75 – \$100	E.g., Sentencing Guidelines consultant.

Mitigation Specialist – Capital	\$125 – \$175	Rates above \$125 reserved for those with case-needed foreign language fluency, mental health expertise, or mastery of relevant legal standards, such as the <i>Atkins</i> intellectual disability exemption from execution.
Mitigation Specialist – Non-Capital	\$75 – \$125	
Neurologist (M.D.)	\$275 – \$400	
Neuropsychologist (Ph.D.)	\$225 – \$375	
Other Medical (M.D. or D.O.)	\$275 – \$400	
Paralegal (including Litigation Support Services)	\$65 – \$125	Rates above \$65 reserved for those with the technology skills necessary to perform complex litigation support or discovery database management (including subjective coding experience), case-needed foreign language fluency, or capital case expertise.
Psychiatrist (M.D.)	\$275 – \$400	
Psychologist (Ph.D.)	\$150 – \$300	

Revised: January 8, 2020