

Case Budgeting Procedure

Once it is reasonably apparent to CJA counsel that the cost of representation for a defendant will likely exceed 150 attorney hours, the court may request development of a complete or staged budget for the defendant's representation. Cases that are expected to exceed approx. \$50,000 in total case costs **MUST** be budgeted. Case budgeting is accomplished with the assistance of the Ninth Circuit's (NCCA) Case Budgeting Attorney. (Note: The \$50,000 threshold can be a combination of 300 attorney hours or some combination of attorney time and expenses). Budgeting is also **mandatory** for capital cases.

Resources - Contacts

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Defender Services Office: www.fd.org

Budget Submission

Case budgets should be prepared using a form that will be provided by the NCCA Case Budgeting Attorney. After consultation with the CBA, the completed budgeting form should be attached to an eVoucher CJA-26 and submitted to the court for approval of the additional funding request.

CJA Guidelines

[Eastern Washington CJA Plan](#)

Eligible Non-Capital Representations [[Guide, Vol. 7, § 230.26](#)]

Capital Representations [[Guide, Vol. 7, § 640](#)]