

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

IN RE: CJA PANEL ATTORNEYS General Order No. 20-5
INTERIM VOUCHERS/COMPENSATION

**GENERAL PUBLIC ORDER REGARDING COVID-19 VIRUS PUBLIC
EMERGENCY—CJA PANEL ATTORNEYS MAY SUBMIT INTERIM
VOUCHERS**

On March 13, 2020, the court issued General Order 20-2 in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States, and specifically in the State of Wisconsin and the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Among other things, that order adjourned all change-of-plea hearings, suppression hearings, sentencing hearings and trials until a date after May 1, 2020, unless the court makes an exception. Many criminal defendants in the Eastern District of Wisconsin are represented by CJA panel attorneys. Section IX of the CJA plan for this district requires panel attorneys to submit claims for compensation in compliance with “any statutory limitations, with such rules, regulations, and guidelines as have been or may be prescribed from time to time by the Judicial Conference of the United States, and with the fiscal policies of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.” Section 230.13 of the Guide to Judiciary Policy regarding Compensation and Expenses of Appointed Counsel provides that panel lawyers should submit their vouchers “no later than 45 days *after the final disposition of the case*, unless good cause is shown.” The disruption to court operations being caused by COVID-19 also will disrupt timely payments to, and place a

financial burden on, CJA panel attorneys. To address this issue, the court is authorizing CJA panel attorneys to submit interim vouchers for compensation, without prior court approval, when the interim voucher exceeds \$500 and is not submitted within two months of the prior interim voucher in the same matter.

The court **ORDERS** that, starting immediately and until further order of the court, CJA panel attorneys may, without seeking prior court approval, submit interim vouchers for compensation as long as the amount sought in the voucher exceeds \$500 and the attorney does not submit the voucher within two months of submitting the prior interim voucher in the same matter.

Dated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 25th day of March, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Pepper', is written over a horizontal line.

HON. PAMELA PEPPER
Chief United States District Judge