



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
1 COURTHOUSE WAY  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

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**Robert M. Farrell**  
CLERK OF COURT

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOVEMBER 20, 2013

On November 14, 2013, the First Circuit Judicial Council approved an amended version of the District of Massachusetts' Plan for Implementing the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, As Amended 18 USC §3006A. The CJA Plan ("Plan") is effective November 14, 2013. The Plan provides the basic framework under which criminal defense services (including counsel and investigative, expert, and other services necessary for adequate representation) may be provided to persons otherwise financially unable to obtain adequate representation. The principal change under the most recent amendments to the Plan is to permit the District Court to issue guidelines governing the payment of vouchers for such services. The adoption of such guidelines will provide additional guidance to counsel and the Court, and help ensure that the Court provides, consistent with the Sixth Amendment and federal law, appropriate management of criminal defense services and proper stewardship of limited resources.

Upon the approval of the CJA Plan, The Guidelines for Claims Submitted for Reimbursement Under the Criminal Justice Act ("Guidelines"), which had been previously circulated to CJA panel attorneys in draft form for comment, became effective on November 14, 2013.

Both the Plan and Guidelines provide important information about the use of partners, associates, paralegals, or law students. The Guidelines are a source document for panel attorneys that include general policies, a list of compensable and non-compensable tasks, information about contracting expert services, and necessary information for proper billing.

The court maintains a comprehensive [website](#) containing information related to the implementation of the Criminal Justice Act, forms and other resources.

The updated documents are linked below:

[Amended Plan for Implementing the Criminal Justice Act](#)

[Guidelines for Claims Submitted for Reimbursement under the CJA](#)