

Court Fees and Psychotherapy Notes

The purpose of this document is to explain the fees associated with any third party involvement. If a client becomes involved with the court system for any reason or files a claim for disability, personal injury, workman's comp, or life insurance it is very likely that your psychotherapy records will be requested. For clients currently involved in the legal system, it is your responsibility to inform your clinician at Counseling and Recovery Guidance, LLC.

If your clinician or Counseling and Recovery Guidance, LLC, receives a subpoena or request from your attorney, the opposing attorney, Louisiana Disability Services, Workman's Compensation Corporation, or Life Insurance, the client is responsible for the additional fees outlined in this document. Please keep in mind that your clinician's testimony may not be solely in your favor or in your best interest. Your clinician and Counseling and Recovery Guidance, LLC, can only testify to the facts and provide their professional opinions.

- Letters to attorneys, judge, or court official: \$100
- Preparation time (including submission of records): \$130
- Phone calls: \$130/hr
- Depositions: \$130/hr
- Time required in giving testimony: \$130/hour
- Mileage: \$0.40/mile
- Time away from office due to depositions or testimony: \$130/hour
- All attorney fees and costs incurred by the therapist as a result of the legal action.
- Filing a document with the court: \$100
- The minimum charge for a court appearance: \$1,500
- Pages 1-25 (\$1/per), 26-350 (\$0.50/page); Search fee (\$25.00), & Postage

A retainer of \$1500 for a court appearance is due in advance. If a subpoena or notice to meet attorney(s) is received without a minimum of 48-hour notice, there will be an additional \$200 "express" charge. Also, if the case is reset with less than 72 business hours notice, then the client will be charged \$500 (in addition to the retainer of \$1500).

Parents: Your clinician is not a court appointed evaluator for child custody and cannot determine the living arrangements of your child(ren). Parents should be mindful that the effectiveness of counseling is based on trust, honesty, and willingness to be open in a safe place. Involving the legal system in counseling interferes with the treatment process and can pose significant psychological risks. Therefore, clients are strongly discouraged from having your clinician release confidential information about the counseling session or testify on their behalf.