

LAW OFFICE OF ERIK J. DAVENPORT

3350 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE #202

CAMERON PARK, CA 95682

Ph 530-677-9606

Fax 530-677-2955

May 5, 2014

EL DORADO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
C/O KERRI WILLIAMS, CFO
330 FAIR LANE
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667

RE: REQUEST BY THE INDIGENT DEFENSE PANEL (CONFLICT PANEL ATTORNEYS)

Dear Board of Supervisors:

I write to you on behalf of all the Court Appointed Conflict Attorneys (including those in SLT). As you may know, we are under contract to provide legal representation to indigent defendants when the Public Defender's Office has a conflict of interest. These legal services include, but are not limited to, all felonies, misdemeanors, misdemeanor appeals, restitution hearings, violation of probation hearings, violation of Mandatory Community Supervision and Post Release Community Supervision hearings (parole hearings), writs, Sexually Violent Predator proceedings, juvenile proceedings, and witness advisement of rights assistance. Monthly compensation for these services is a fixed sum regardless of work load or complexity. We are not paid by the hour.

As a result of the economic downturn, the members of the Board had the difficult task of making numerous cuts to the county's budget. In March of 2009, our contracts were amended by cutting our fixed compensation by 10 percent. We accepted this cut knowing that everyone should share the pain of the county's dire economic condition, but were repeatedly told that when economic matters improved, that we could come back to the table to seek the restoration of our compensation. We believe the time has come, and respectfully ask that the fixed monthly compensation be restored to the prior levels by increasing the current compensation amount by 10%.

2014 MAY -5 AM 9:02

EL DORADO COUNTY
C.A.O.

We acknowledge the tremendous work done by you, our Board of Supervisors, in dealing with the many needs and concerns of your constituents. Governing El Dorado County is a daunting responsibility, so we absolutely appreciate the time that you give to us on this matter.

We are aware of the difficulties of budgeting, for each of us are independent business owners. We are all self employed business people. We maintain offices, are responsible for our own support services (secretarial, etc.), rent, office supplies, insurance, professional dues, mandatory legal education, research expenses, etc. Over the 5 years since we accepted the 10% cut, we have all experienced a steady increase in the cost of living and doing business. The 10% reduction becomes more difficult on us with each passing year. As small business owners, we are asking for your support in restoring our compensation.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erik J. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

ERIK J. DAVENPORT, ESQ. (SB#138000)

Cc:

John J. Castellanos (SB#95735)
Adam C. Clark, ESQ. (SB#255644)
James S. Clark, ESQ. (SB#88105)
David A. Brooks, ESQ. (SB#119250)
Lori G. London, Esq. (SB#117613)
Paul I. Palant, Esq. (SB#80497)
Stephan A. Tapson, ESQ. (SB#51684)
Melissa M. van der Vijver, ESQ. (SB#248311)
Adam T. Weiner, ESQ. (SB#193608)