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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF GUAM

RE:) Supreme Court Case No. PRM06-006
REPEAL OF MISCELLANEOUS)
RULE 1.1.5 OF THE LOCAL)
RULES OF THE SUPERIOR)
COURT OF GUAM (INDIGENT) **PROMULGATION ORDER NO. 06-006-30**
DEFENSE RULE) and CREATION)
OF GENERAL RULE 12.1)
(INTERPRETER SERVICES AND)
COMPENSATION))
)

The Supreme Court adopted the Local Rules of the Superior Court of Guam, which include Miscellaneous Rule 1.1, known as the Indigent Defense Rule. *See* Supreme Court Case No. PRM06-006-02 (May 3, 2007). The Indigent Defense Rule, as amended since its initial enactment, has governed the area of indigent defense in the Judiciary of Guam, including but not limited to the establishment of a Private Attorney Panel, the constitution of the Standing Committee of the Private Attorney Panel, determination of need, the manner of appointment of counsel to represent indigent individuals, and compensation for legal services under this rule.

With the enactment of Public Law 38-48 (the “Public Defender Service Corporation Act of 2025”), administration of the Private Attorney Panel will be transferred to the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC), effective October 1, 2025. With the exception of certain portions of the current M.R. 1.1.4 and 1.1.5 that relate to the appointment of and compensation for court interpreters, the remainder of the current Indigent Defense Rule will be rendered without effect after September 30, 2025.

Therefore, under the authority to “make and promulgate rules governing the administration of the judiciary and the practice and procedure in the courts of the Judicial branch of Guam,” 48 U.S.C. § 1424-1(a)(6), the Supreme Court **REPEALS** Miscellaneous Rule 1.1 of the Local Rules of the Superior Court (the Indigent Defense Rule) in its entirety, and **ENACTS** General Rule 12.1



Indigent Defense

MR 1.1. REPEALED, effective October 1, 2025, through Promulgation Order No. 06-006-30 (September 26, 2025)¹

¹ With the enactment of Public Law 38-48 (the “Public Defender Service Corporation Act of 2025”), administration of the Private Attorney Panel will be transferred to the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC), effective October 1, 2025. Rules relative to court interpreter appointments and compensation, formerly found at MR 1.1.4 and MR 1.1.5, may now be found in General Rule (GR) 12.1 of the Local Rules of the Superior Court.

**LOCAL RULES OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM**

GR 12.1 Interpreter Services and Compensation.

(a) The court may authorize court-appointed counsel to retain the services of interpreters upon a showing that such services are necessary for adequate representation of the person.

(b) Court Interpreter Compensation.

(1) REGISTERED BLOCK PAY – Non-Trial Hearings:

(A) \$60.00 per HALF DAY BLOCK - Morning Block 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; Afternoon Block 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Compensation for a Half Day Block will be paid in full even if the interpreter only works for a fraction of a Half Day Block.

(B) \$90.00 per FULL DAY BLOCK - Morning Block plus same day Afternoon Block. Compensation for a Full Day Block will be paid in full so long as the interpreter works for any fraction of both the Morning Block and Afternoon Block of a given day.

(C) \$16.00 per hour after 5:00 p.m., compensated at $\frac{1}{4}$ fractions of the hour.

(2) REGISTERED BLOCK PAY – Trial

(A) \$80.00 per HALF DAY BLOCK - Morning Block 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; Afternoon Block 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Compensation for a Half Day Block will be paid in full even if the interpreter only works for a fraction of a Half Day Block.

(B) \$110.00 per FULL DAY BLOCK - Morning Block plus same day Afternoon Block. Compensation for a Full Day Block will be paid in full so long as the interpreter works for any fraction of both the Morning Block and Afternoon Block of a given day.

(C) \$20.00 per hour after 5:00 p.m., compensated at $\frac{1}{4}$ fractions of the hour.

(3) REGISTERED NON-BLOCK PAY – Non-Courtroom Matters (office appointments/visits to the Department of Corrections)

(A) \$28.00 per hour, compensated at $\frac{1}{4}$ fractions of the hour.

(4) UNREGISTERED NON-BLOCK PAY - All matters.

(A) \$16.00 per Hour, not to exceed \$60.00 per day, including after 5:00 p.m. Unregistered interpreters may be compensated for waiting time in addition to actual interpreting time. Calculations should be made to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ fraction of the hour.

(5) APPEARANCE FEE. The following compensation shall apply to a courtroom hearing, or non-courtroom matter/appointment that is cancelled due to no fault of the interpreter, and the interpreter appeared in conformity with his/her scheduled assignment.

(A) Courtroom Appearance Fee - \$30.00

(B) Appointment Appearance Fee - \$12.00

SOURCE: Added by Sup. Ct. of Guam Prom. Order No. PRM02-009 (Nov. 19, 2002). MR 13.5(A) and (C) repealed and reenacted by PRM04-003 (Feb. 27, 2004), and amended by PRM05-004. MR 1.1.5(a)(5) added by PRM06-006-03 (Oct. 2, 2007). MR 1.1.5(a)(1) amended by PRM06-006-06 (July 16, 2008). MR 1.1.5(a)(4) amended by PRM06-006-07 (July 28, 2009). MR 1.1.5(d) adopted pursuant to PRM13-001-01 (Mar. 6, 2013) and amended by PRM13-001-03 (July 1, 2013). MR 1.1.5 amended by PRM06-006-20 (Apr. 14, 2022) (effective May 1, 2022). MR 1.1.5(a) amended by PRM06-006-23 (Mar. 27, 2023) (effective Apr. 1, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2023); amendment extended through June 30, 2024 by PRM06-006-26 (Dec. 19, 2023), through Dec. 31, 2024 by PRM06-006-27 (July 1, 2024 *nunc pro tunc* to June 30, 2024), and through June 30, 2025 by PRM06-006-28 (Dec 30, 2024). MR 1.1 repealed by PRM06-006-30 (Sep. 26, 2025). Portions of MR 1.1.4 and 1.1.5 were reenacted as GR 12.1 by PRM06-006-30 (Sep. 26, 2025).