

**DOCKETED**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

**FILED**

**FEB 21 2012**

IN RE: EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS ) G.O. 12-1  
IN CIVIL RIGHTS CASES )

ROBERT D. DENNIS, CLERK  
U.S. DIST. COURT, WESTERN DIST. OF OKLA.  
BY RB DEPUTY

ORDER AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT  
OF EXPENSES FROM THE NON-APPROPRIATED FUND

The judges of this court occasionally appoint counsel for indigent defendant in civil rights cases. These appointments are of particular benefit to the administration of justice in those cases where a trial or evidentiary hearing is anticipated and the plaintiff would otherwise be unrepresented. These appointments do not ordinarily involve compensation to the appointed attorney unless the case is one where the plaintiff prevails and a fee is recovered from the opposing party. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 1988. However, such appointments may be more attractive to the appointed lawyer if provision is made for reimbursement of certain extraordinary costs, *e.g.* transcripts and expert witness fees, which might otherwise be incurred by counsel. Further, the reimbursement of such costs aids the administration of justice by enhancing the ability of counsel and the parties to develop fully the appropriate facts and theories of relief in a particular case.

Accordingly, the judges of this Court hereby authorize the reimbursement of expenses necessarily incurred by appointed counsel in civil rights cases, within the limits and in the circumstances set out below, from the locally-administered, non-appropriated fund maintained by the court from attorney admissions fees:

1. Reimbursement may be sought for deposition transcripts, expert witness fees, and other extraordinary expenses not reasonably included in law office overhead. The costs of mailing, telephone, and copying are examples of such overhead costs and are not subject to reimbursement.

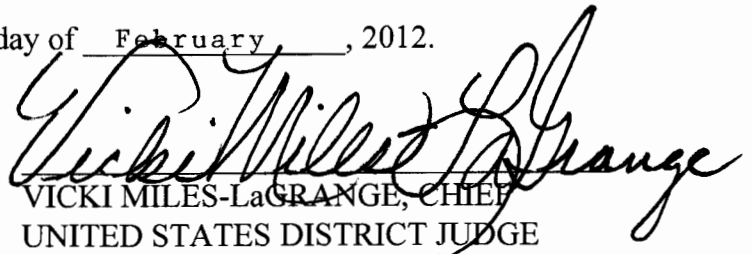
2. The request for reimbursement must be approved by the assigned judge. For all requests expected to exceed \$800, the prior approval of the assigned judge shall be obtained.


3. Total reimbursements in any case shall not exceed \$2400 absent exceptional circumstances, which shall be stated with particularity in the request for reimbursement.

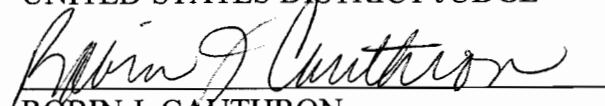
4. All requests for reimbursement are subject to the availability of funds, as determined by the Advisory Committee (established by separate order) to administer the funds.

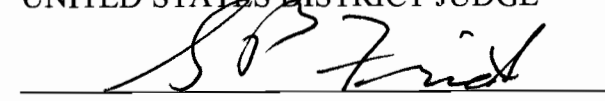
This Order supercedes Miscellaneous Order No. 22 filed September 12, 2001.

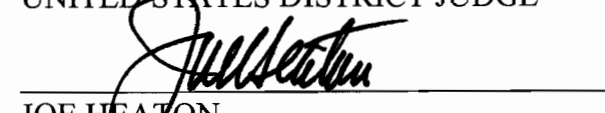
**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 21st day of February, 2012.

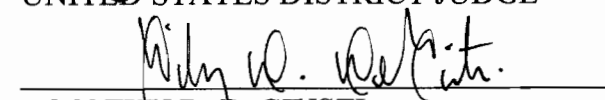
  
VICKI MILES-LaGRANGE, CHIEF  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
DAVID L. RUSSELL  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
ROBIN J. CAUTHRON  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
STEPHEN P. FRIOT  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
JOE HEATON  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
TIMOTHY D. DeGIUSTI  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE