

The Schedules below contain fees which are based on accumulated knowledge and experience.

**SCHEDULE A: UNCONTESTED FAMILY LAW ACTIONS**

1. Review Settlement Agreement/Stipulated Judgment prepared by another	\$350.00 - \$750.00
2. Prepare stand-alone Stipulated Order	\$350.00 - \$750.00
3. Prepare extraordinarily simple uncontested action	\$750.00 - \$1750.00
4. Prepare uncontested action (no property/children/support)	\$1000.00 - \$2000.00
5. Prepare simple uncontested action (few issues)	\$1250.00 - \$2500.00
6. Prepare uncontested action (normal)	\$1500.00 - \$3000.00
7. Prepare uncontested action (complex)	\$2000.00 - \$5000.00
8. Higher minimum fees may be charged for extraordinarily complex cases.	

To "Prepare" an action means to perform the legal services necessary such that a Stipulated Judgment or Final Order may be entered. The above minimum fees are calculated on the assumption that the matter is completely uncontested, and no negotiation or court action is required to bring the matter to conclusion. Your actual minimum fee is in your Fee Agreement and is influenced by the cost of performing services in your county. After execution of the Fee Agreement, these minimum fees are fully earned on completion of the initial interview with an Attorney or staff member. Said minimum fees entitle the Client to the services of the firm until the specified work is completed, or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. Minimum fees are earned whether or not any documents are ultimately executed. Said fees are earned even if the Client requests that the firm cease work before it is completed. Additional factors may cause increases in fees. Such factors are listed below.

a. Uncontested annulment or divorce requiring a court appearance	\$600(Z1), \$800(Z2), \$1050(Z3), \$1250(Z4)*
b. Order for publication (Respondent's whereabouts unknown)	\$600(Z1), \$800(Z2), \$1050(Z3), \$1250(Z4), +\$200(SD)*
c. Attorney-assisted negotiation of agreement	\$750.00, \$1500.00(SD)*

Additional fees will be charged if an initially uncontested case becomes contested.

**SCHEDULE B: INITIATION OF CONTESTED FAMILY LAW CASES**

After execution of the Fee Agreement, the minimum fees set forth below are earned on completion of the first interview with an Attorney or staff member, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. The minimum fee for an initial interview entitles the Client to the preparation of a Petition/Response and attendant documents necessary to begin a case (exclusive of hearing preparation) until said work is completed or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. All other minimum fees entitle the Client to legal services until the specified work is completed or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F.

1. Initial interview (no hearing contemplated before judgment)	\$500.00, \$750.00(SD)*
2. Special appearance for continuance	\$300.00(Z1), \$600(Z2), \$850(Z3), \$1050(Z4)*
3. Appearance for initial contested hearing	\$600.00(Z1), \$800(Z2), \$1050(Z3), \$1250.00(Z4)*
4. Paperwork for initial contested hearing	\$750.00, \$1000.00(SD)*
5. Preliminary case research (if necessary before deciding to take case)	\$350.00, \$500.00(SD)*

**SCHEDULE C: CONTESTED FAMILY LAW CASES**

A minimum fee as set forth in the Fee Agreement includes fees as set forth in Schedule B. Contested cases are any cases which include preparation for contested hearings or trial. A minimum fee as set forth in the Fee Agreement entitles the Client to the services of the firm until the case is concluded with a Judgment or Final Order, or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. Said minimum fee does not cover legal services for settlement conferences, trials, or preparation therefore. Said minimum fee shall be fully earned upon the second court appearance/settlement meeting (excluding continuances), upon entry of Judgment or Final Order, or when the legal charges pursuant to Schedule F equal the minimum fee, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. Discontinuance of services before the minimum fee is fully earned will cause said fee to be recalculated pursuant to Schedules B and F.

1. Minimum fee for preparation for Settlement Conference including Final Declaration of Disclosure, Trial Brief, and attendance at the Settlement Conference	\$1450(Z1), \$1750(Z2), \$2000(Z3), \$2200(Z4), +\$200(SD)*
2. Minimum fee per day (or any portion thereof) of evidentiary hearing/trial	\$1450(Z1), \$1750(Z2), \$2000(Z3), \$2200(Z4), +\$200(SD)*

**SCHEDULE D: APPEALS AND WRITS**

A minimum fee as set forth in the Fee Agreement entitles the Client to the services of the firm until an Appellate Order is obtained, or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. The minimum fee shall be fully earned upon the completion of the first brief or when the legal charges pursuant to Schedule F equal the minimum fee, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. Discontinuance of services before the minimum fee is fully earned will cause said fee to be recalculated pursuant to Schedule F.

**SCHEDULE E: DOCUMENTS AND SOFTWARE**

Preparation of support calculations in any situation other than preparation for initial hearings (Schedule B) or in uncontested matters (Schedule A) are always billed at a minimum of one hour of Legal Assistant I time pursuant to Schedule F. Preparation of other calculations using software are always billed at a minimum of one hour of Attorney I time pursuant to Schedule F. When we are hired solely to prepare documents and not to perform the services indicated in the above Schedules, the following minimum fees will apply:

Letter, simple deeds, and other simple forms	\$96.00
Simple Wage Assignments	\$250.00, \$350(SD)*
Legal letter, Wage Assignments (w/arrears), FLARPLs, multiple form documents	\$350.00, \$450(SD)*
Documents drafted from scratch	\$450.00
Order to Divide Pension Benefits	\$750.00 for the first, \$500 per each subsequent Order

The hourly rates listed below shall be charged as legal services are rendered. If a minimum fee has been billed as set forth in the schedules herein, hourly charges for legal services shall be payable by the Client only insofar as such charges exceed any minimum fees previously billed.

Legal Secretary I	\$60.00/hour
Legal Secretary II	\$80.00/hour
Legal Assistant I	\$96.00/hour
Legal Assistant II	\$110.00/hour
Legal Assistant III	\$125.00/hour
Legal Assistant IV	\$140.00/hour
Clerk I	\$140.00/hour
Clerk II	\$150.00/hour
Attorney I\Clerk III	\$160.00/hour
Attorney II\Clerk IV	\$180.00/hour
Attorney III\Clerk V	\$200.00/hour
Certified Specialist I/Veteran Attorney IV	\$240.00/hour
Certified Specialist II/ Veteran Attorney V	\$280.00/hour
Certified Specialist III/Veteran Attorney VI	\$320.00/hour
Certified Specialist IV/Veteran Attorney VII	\$360.00/hour

Court appearances, depositions, and attorney meetings of any kind in the county of the local office in which the firm was engaged, including telephonic appearances, are charged at a minimum of two hours at the billing rate of the attorney making the appearance (one hour in Imperial County or Hemet). Out-of-county or long-distance court appearances, depositions, and attorney meetings of any kind are charged at a minimum of six hours at the billing rate of the attorney making the appearance. Time is billed in quarter hour increments and is rounded up to the nearest quarter hour. Except in Imperial County and Hemet, document service, pick-up, and filing shall be charged at a minimum of 2.25 hours at the Legal Secretary I billing rate. Hourly rates related to complex trials, appeals, or other special tasks may be enhanced up to 60%.

**SCHEDULE G: OFFICE COSTS**

Document reproduction and faxes received	\$ .25/page
Long distance telephone calls	Our cost
Dividers	\$2.00/set

**SCHEDULE H: CRIMINAL CASES**

An Uncontested Plea Bargain has a minimum fee pursuant to Schedule A.6 and entitles the Client to the services of the firm until the case is concluded with a stipulated disposition, or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. The minimum fee shall be fully earned upon completion of the first pre-trial, upon final disposition of the matter, or when the legal charges pursuant to Schedule F equal the minimum fee, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. Discontinuance of services before the minimum fee is fully earned will cause said fee to be recalculated pursuant to Schedule F.

A Contested Criminal Case has a minimum fee pursuant to Schedule A.7 for non-felony actions and double for felony actions. Such minimum fee entitles the Client to the services of the firm until the case is concluded (exclusive of preparation for and appearance at contested hearings/trials-- see next paragraph), or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F. These fees are fully earned on conclusion of the second pre-trial or the first readiness hearing, upon final disposition of the matter, or when the legal charges pursuant to Schedule F equal the minimum fee, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. Discontinuance of services before the minimum fee is fully earned will cause said fee to be recalculated pursuant to Schedule F. Said minimum fee shall not include contested hearings/trials/appeals which have their own separate minimum fees as described in the next paragraph.

The Client shall incur a minimum fee pursuant to Schedule C.2 per day (or any portion thereof) of contested hearing/trial, including but not limited to preliminary hearings, special motions (e.g. to suppress evidence), and trials. Said minimum fees shall be earned at the conclusion of each day of contested hearing/trial, or when the legal charges pursuant to Schedule F equal the minimum fee, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. Appeals and Writs shall be handled pursuant to Schedule D.

**SCHEDULE I: UNLAWFUL DETAINERS**

After execution of the Fee Agreement, the minimum fees set forth below are earned on completion of the first interview with an Attorney of staff member at each stage of the Unlawful Detainer, or completion of all documents necessary to prepare for said stage, even if the Client asks the firm to cease work before it is completed. A minimum fee entitles the Client to all legal services necessary to complete a given stage of the case, or until the minimum fee is equal to the legal charges as set forth in Schedule F.

Stage 1: Preparation of Notices	\$100.00, +\$50(SD)*
Stage 2: Preparation of Complaint (and Judgment if Default)	\$400.00, + \$100(SD)*
Stage 3: Preparation and Appearance: Contested Trial	+\$600(Z1), +\$800(Z2), +\$1050(Z3), +\$1250(Z4)*

Payment of the minimum fee for Stage 3 entitles the Client to preparation and entry of a Judgment and preparation of a Writ of Possession if appropriate.

**SCHEDULE J: ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES**

- 1.5% per month on balances over one month past due.
- \$25 on bounced checks.
- \$85 against any refund for initial opening of case file with no initial interview.
- \$25/month for collection of support or other funds in closed cases.

**\*SCHEDULE OF ABBREVIATIONS**

- Z1 = Hemet or El Centro
- Z2 = San Diego (F1-6, 8-9), Calexico, Brawley
- Z3 = San Diego (not F1-6, 8-9, or DCSS), Riverside, Temecula
- Z4 = San Diego (DCSS), Winterhaven, Blythe, Indio
- SD = San Diego County

**SCHEDULE K: BOND EXONERATIONS**

\$350(Z1), \$450(Z2), \$800(Z2, SD), \$1050(Z3), \$1250(Z4)\* minimum fees