

October 20, 2006

Attorney Ad Litem and Guardian Ad Litem Fees for indigent parties

In the case of court-appointed counsel for indigent parties, the Court must heed Williamson County budgetary considerations. The Court must approve fees under a budget approved and overseen by the Commissioners Court. Attorneys who accept Court appointments in probate and guardianship cases with an indigent party should not expect to be reimbursed at their regular hourly rates because the Court's annual budget limits the amounts it can pay for such services. Ordinarily, the Court compensates attorneys ad litem at an hourly rate of **\$65** plus associated expenses (i.e. mileage, copies, faxes). The hourly rate for guardians ad litem in indigent cases is the same as that paid to attorneys ad litem and is determined by the hours spent by the individual attorney on that particular case at the rate indicated above.

Court Appointed Vouchers must be submitted to Court staff PRIOR to hearing.