

POLICY ON ACCEPTANCE OF FEES BY COUNSEL APPOINTED UNDER THE CJA

Appointed counsel may not require, request or accept any payment or promise of payment or any other valuable consideration in any case in which the court has appointed counsel under the Criminal Justice Act, *or in any case (state or federal, criminal or civil) that is contemporaneous with your appointment*, unless prior approval has been received from the presiding judicial officer. Appointed counsel must make such request in writing to the court. The court will only grant approval in extraordinary circumstances, as allowing court appointed counsel to accept payment from a client or his or her family creates an appearance of impropriety that may undermine the integrity of the judicial process and suggests that appointed counsel would not provide effective representation if he or she was compensated under the Criminal Justice Act. **Failure to abide by this policy will result in your removal from the felony panel.**