



THE TRIAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
PROBATE and FAMILY COURT

Three Center Plaza, Suite 210
Boston, MA 02108

John D. Casey
Chief Justice

Domenic M. DiCenso
Deputy Court Administrator

MEMORANDUM

To: All Category F Guardians ad litem

From: Hon. John D. Casey, Chief Justice

Date: January 11, 2023

RE: Increased hourly rate for State-paid Category F GALS

As the result of an earmark and accompanying funding included by the Legislature in the Trial Court's FY23 budget, the hourly rate for state-paid, Category F GALS was increased to \$50 per hour. The rate increase is retroactive to July 1, 2022.

If you have submitted bills for services rendered after July 1, 2022, but used the \$40 per hour rate, you are responsible for submitting an amended bill and providing documentation to the appropriate division of the Probate and Family Court to obtain the correct payment.

The [Court Investigator's Certificate of Services form](#) available on Mass.gov has been updated to account for the rate increase, and Category F GALS should use the updated form when seeking payment for services rendered on or after July 1, 2022. To the extent Category F GALS have not yet submitted bills for services rendered prior to July 1, 2022, the [Court Investigator's Certificate of Services for Services Rendered Prior to July 1, 2002](#) form should accompany those requests. This version of the form will remain available on Mass.gov for the next few months to accommodate submission of older bills. Until a new Certificate of Services form is created to use by the Probate and Family Court and Juvenile Court, Category F GALS may use the Juvenile Court's Court Investigator's form and strike out "Juvenile Court" and write in "Probate and Family Court."

Questions concerning the processing of specific bills at the \$50 hourly rate should be directed to the local division of the Probate and Family Court. Other fee generating questions can be emailed to pandf.feegenerating@jud.state.ma.us.