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PLRA
update,
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LEONIDAS RALPH MECHAM
Director

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES COURTS

CLARENCE A. LEE, JR.
Associate Director

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

December 29, 2005

**MEMORANDUM TO ALL: JUDGES, UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS
JUDGES, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVES
FEDERAL PUBLIC/COMMUNITY DEFENDERS
DISTRICT COURT EXECUTIVES
CLERKS, UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS
CLERKS, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS
SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEYS
CHIEF PREARGUMENT/CONFERENCE ATTORNEYS**

SUBJECT: Implementation of Hourly Rate Increases for Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorneys (**INFORMATION**)

The Fiscal Year 2006 Defender Services appropriation (Public Law 109-115) includes funds to raise the non-capital hourly panel attorney compensation rate from \$90 to \$92, and the maximum hourly capital rate from \$160 to \$163 (for federal capital prosecutions and capital post-conviction proceedings), for attorneys appointed to represent eligible persons under the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, and the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, codified in part in 21 U.S.C. § 848(q).

The new hourly compensation rates will apply to work performed on or after January 1, 2006. Where the appointment of counsel occurred before this effective date, the new compensation rates apply to that portion of services provided on or after January 1, 2006.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Office of Defender Services, Legal and Policy Branch Duty Attorney, on (202) 502-3030.

Leonidas Ralph Mecham

cc: CJA Panel Attorney District Representatives