

CJA eVoucher ATTORNEY MANUAL

May 2016

CJA eVoucher for Attorneys

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Accessing the CJA eVoucher Program	3
IE10:	3
IE11:	4
Logging In	7
The Home Page	7
Folders on the Home Page	ε
Navigating in the CJA eVoucher Program	<u>c</u>
My Profile (including changing your username and password)	10
Attorney Info	11
Billing Info	12
Links	14
Creating and Submitting Documents	15
Appointments	15
Creating the CJA 20/30 Voucher	17
Services	18
Expenses	19
Claim Status	20
Documents	22
Confirmation	23
Printing a copy of the voucher	25
Rejected Documents	26
Closed Documents	27
Requests for Interim Payments	28

Introduction

The CJA eVoucher System is a web-based solution for submission, monitoring and management of all Criminal Justice Act (CJA) functions. It allows the attorney to create, complete and submit various CJA documents via the internet. Likewise, the court (including CJA staff and judges) are able to perform their functions electronically. The result is more efficient submission and processing of all CJA-related documents.

Accessing the CJA eVoucher Program

In order for eVoucher to function properly, you must use Internet Explorer, version 8 or higher (refer to the Help item on the IE menu bar to determine which version of Internet Explorer you are currently using). You may also use Safari on an Apple device. If you are using IE 10 or 11, you will need to set your browser to "compatibility mode."

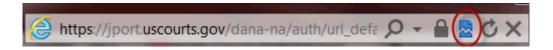
<u>IE10</u>:

In IE 10 turn on "compatibility mode" by clicking on what looks like a torn piece of paper after the web address. If compatibility mode is on (as it should be for eVoucher to work properly) the icon will be blue:

Compatibility mode Off:

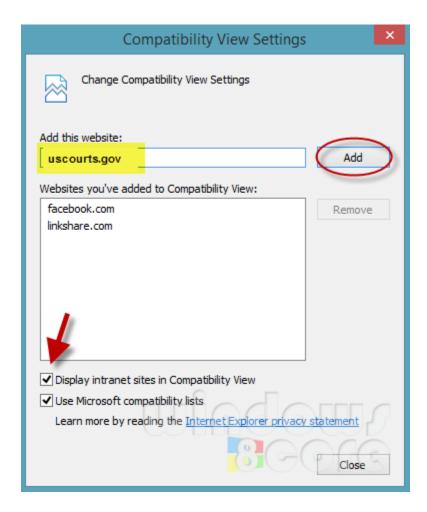


Compatibility mode On:



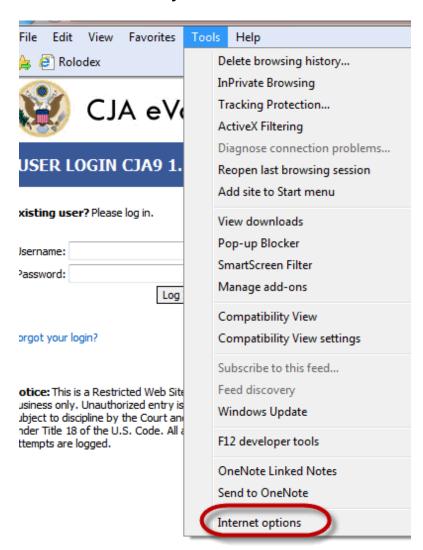
IE11:

- In Internet Explorer, go to the eVoucher website. https://circ03
 - evapp.ada.dcn/CJA_c03_prod/CJAeVoucher/
- 2. Click Tools on the menu bar (if you can't see the menu bar, there should be a "cog" icon in the upper right corner of the browser -- click on that to get the menu bar)
- 3. Scroll down to Compatibility View Settings. The website you are currently viewing should pop up, but it might just say uscourts.gov (which is correct).
- 4. Click the Add button and it should add "uscourts.gov" in the area below.
- 5. Make sure the two boxes below that are checked.

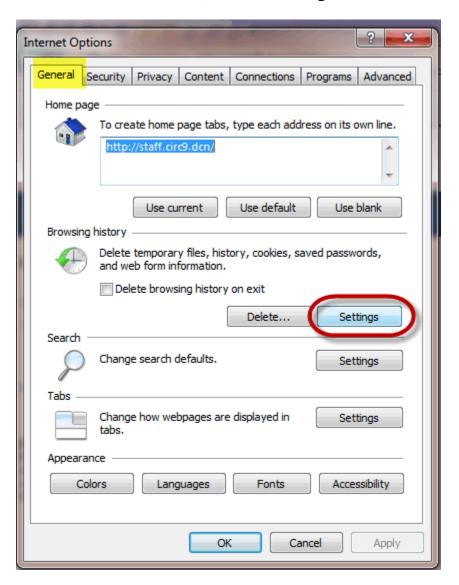


To insure against data loss, you should also set your cache settings as indicated here:

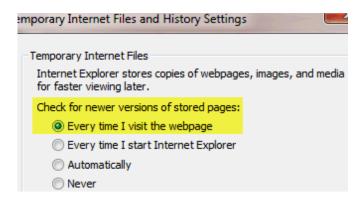
1. Go to TOOLS on your browser menu bar and click on "Internet Options"



2. From the General tab, click on Settings



3. Choose this option:



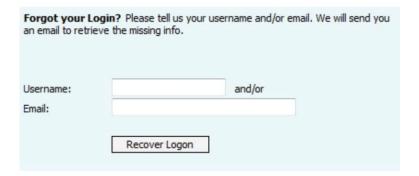
Logging In

Log into eVoucher using your Username and Password (both of which are initially assigned by the court).



If you forget your username or password, you may click on the "Forgot your login?" hyperlink.

Enter your Username or e-mail address to retrieve your information.



The Home Page

Your home page provides access to all of your appointments and CJA documents. Security has been put into place that prohibits you from viewing information for any other attorney. Likewise, no one else will have access to your information.

Folders on the Home Page

Your home page has several folders to organize your appointments and documents:

FOLDER	
My Active Documents	Contains documents (including vouchers and authorizations) that you have already created and are still in "edit" mode as well as those that have been submitted to you for approval by an expert service provider.
Appointments' List	A list of all your active appointments.
My Submitted Documents	Contains vouchers for yourself, or for your service provider, which have been submitted to the court for payment. Documents submitted to the court requesting expert services (authorizations) or interim payments will also appear in this folder.
My Service Provider's Documents	Contains all the documents for your service providers. This will include: • Vouchers in progress by the experts • Vouchers submitted to the attorney for approval and submission to the court • Vouchers signed off by the attorney and submitted to the court for payment Note: Attorneys will have access to all their service provider vouchers.
Closed Documents	Contains documents including vouchers that have been approved by the court and automatically entered into the CJA Payment System, as well as approved authorizations. Note: Closed documents are periodically archived by the court and at that point will no longer be displayed on your home page. However, they are still accessible through the search features.

Navigating in the CJA eVoucher Program



Menu Item		
Home	The eVoucher home page (see section on Home Page)	
Operations	Allows you to search for specific appointments.	
Reports	Selected reports you may run on your appointments.	
Links	Hyperlinks to CJA resources: forms, training materials, publications, etc.	
Help	Provides:	
Logout	Logs user off the eVoucher program.	

Sorting: Click on the column heading (*e.g.*, Case, Description, Type) to sort in either ascending or descending chronological (or alphabetical) order.

Resizing of Column:

- 1. Along the folder headings (*e.g.* case, defendant, type, etc.), move your cursor to the line between the columns until an arrow appears.
- 2. Left click your mouse and drag the line in the desired direction to enlarge or reduce the column size.

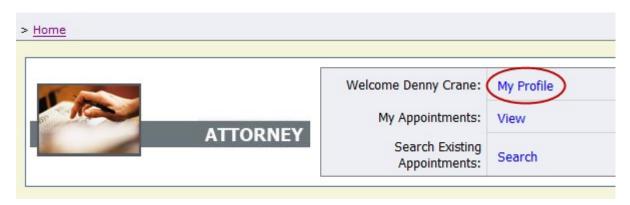
The folder size does not increase, therefore some columns may move off the screen.

My Profile (including changing your username and password)

The My Profile section contains:

- Login Info: Change username (not required) and password
- Attorney Info: Enter Social Security Number, edit contact information, add additional email address(es)
- Billing Info: Enter EIN number and any firm affiliation

To access your profile page, click on the My Profile hyperlink on your home page (you can also access My Profile from Help on the blue menu bar):



Click the Edit button on the far right of the Login Info section to access the username and password fields. To edit the Username, type over the existing username and click the <u>change</u> hyperlink.

To edit the password, click Reset. Type the new password in both fields. The new password must be at least eight characters in length and must contain all of the following:

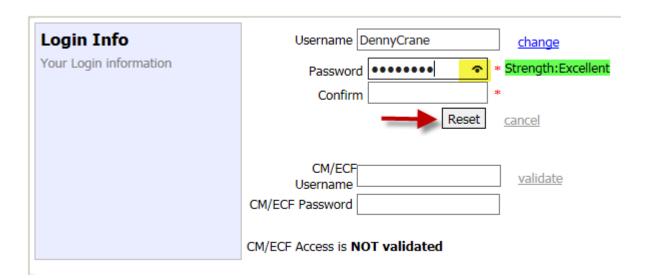
- at least one uppercase letter,
- at least one number and
- one (basic) special character (a dash constitutes a special character)

For example, DCrane#1. You are strongly urged to change your password immediately and to select a secure password (eVoucher will prompt you if your password strength is deemed weak).

After typing the new password in the Password and Confirm fields, click the Reset button again (as shown below).

Note: Click and hold the "eye" icon to unmask this field to check the accuracy of your password.

CJA eVoucher for Attorneys Third Circuit Court of Appeals



You do not have to complete the CM/ECF information – the COA's eVoucher does not currently link to CM/ECF so you can **ignore the "NOT validated" message.**

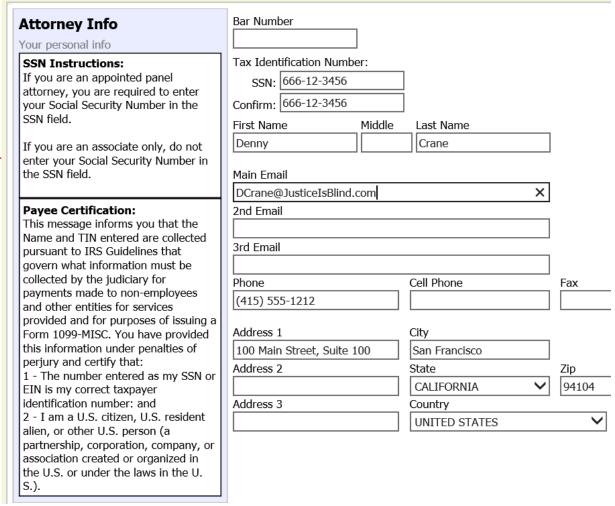
<u>Note</u>: If you work in any district court that also uses eVoucher, you can have the same Username and Password for all courts. However, keep in mind that the eVoucher programs look essentially the same once you are logged in. To avoid potential issues, DO NOT have multiple versions of eVoucher open at the same time, be it different courts or multiple versions for the same court.

Attorney Info

Also on the profile page is a section to enter your personal information ("Attorney Info"). Attorneys must enter their Social Security Number into the Attorney Info section in order to be paid, even if there is a firm EIN/TIN.

You can enter up to three email addresses in this section. These addresses will receive automatic notifications from the system to alert you that a case has been entered into eVoucher, if you have a document that is rejected, and when your voucher has gone through all the approval processes and has been entered into the payment system.

<u>Note</u>: associates are not required to enter their SSNs. Associates will enter the billing code of the attorney they are working with as described in the following Billing Info section.



Billing Info

The billing information section is for you to enter your billing information. Under Billing Type, choose the Self-Employed option if the income is to be reported to your Social Security Number. (NOTE: if you choose this option, the Tax Identification Number fields will not appear.) If you work with a Firm, choose that option and enter the firm's EIN/TIN in both fields.

Billing Info List all available billing info records	Billing Type: Self-Employed Firm
EIN Instructions: If this billing information line is for a pre-existing agreement with a law firm, please enter the Firm's Name and Employer Identification Number (EIN).	O Associate Tax Identification Number: EIN/TIN: Confirm:
Payee Certification: This message informs you that the Name and TIN entered are collected pursuant to IRS Guidelines that govern what information must be collected by the judiciary for payments made to non-employees and other entities for services provided and for purposes of issuing a Form 1099-MISC. You have provided this information under penalties of perjury and certify that: 1 - The number entered as my SSN or EIN is my correct taxpayer identification number: and 2 - I am a U.S. citizen, U.S. resident alien, or other U.S. person (a partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the U.S. or under the laws in the U. S.).	Copy Address from Profile Name: Phone: Fax: Address 1: Address 2: Address 3: City: State:
	Country: UNITED STATES

You will be required to type your name (or the name of the firm) in the Name field. If the address information is the same as that entered into the Attorney Info section, you can check the "Copy Address from Profile" box and the program will copy that information for you.

Whether you choose Self-Employed or Firm, when you close this section, you will be assigned a Billing Code:



Associates

Associates will choose the Associate option with the Billing Info field and will be prompted to enter a billing code:



The Billing Code must be obtained from the appointed attorney (see above screenshot).

Holding Period

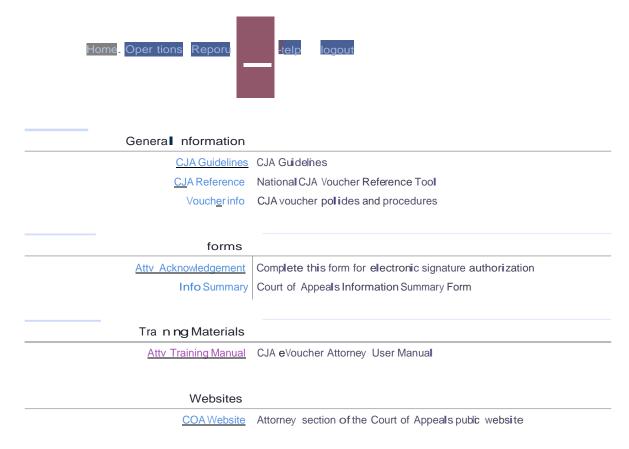
The Holding Period section does not apply at the Appellate level, so you don't need to do anything with that section.

Continuing Legal Education

The section for Continuing Legal Education is provided as a convenient place to store information regarding CLE credits. The Third Circuit does not require CLE; however you may choose to utilize this section for your own personal record management.

Links

In the Links section on the blue menu bar, the eVoucher program provides links to commonly used resources for CJA panel attorneys. Below is small example of the kind of information available.



Creating and Submitting Documents

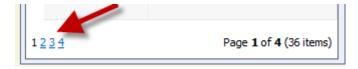
Appointments

Locate the Appointment in the Appointments' List area on your home page.

Click on the case number hyperlink to open the appointment record.

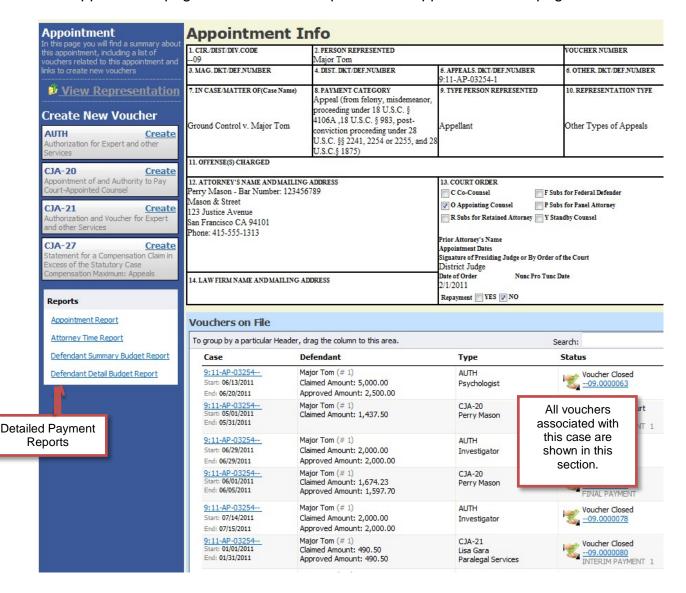


Note: There could be several pages of cases, so if you don't see your case on the first page, you may need to check the other pages:



You can also use the Search Existing Appointments link in the "Welcome" section of your home page by typing in the basic case number (e.g., 13-2354).

The Appointment page for this case will open on the Appointment Info page:



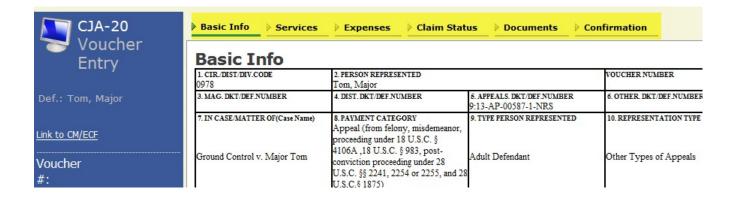
Creating the CJA 20/30 Voucher

From the list on the left hand side of the appointment page, choose the CJA-20 option and hit Create.



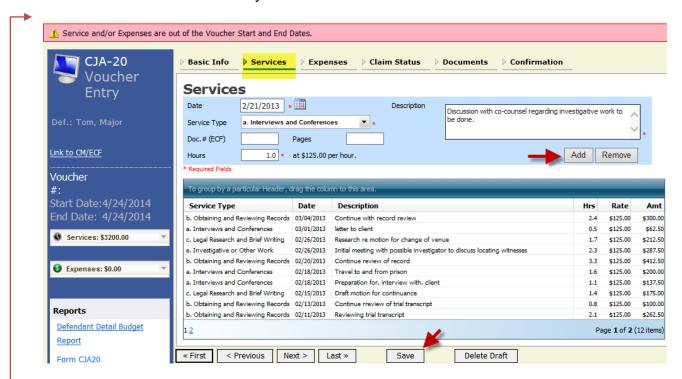
Note: If you are working on a capital case, your options will be a CJA-30 and CJA-31.

The CJA-20 document will open onto the Basic Info tab. Navigation through this voucher can be accomplished by clicking on the "tabs" shown below in yellow.



Services

Click on the Services tab. Enter the Date, Service Type (choose correct category from the pull-down menu), Hours (in tenth of an hour increments) and a <u>detailed</u> Description. Click the Add button to add the entry to the list:

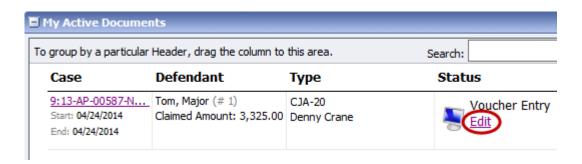


Please note there is NO AUTOSAVE function on this program. You must hit the Save button periodically in order to save your work.

When you hit the save button, you may see what looks like an error message appear in pink at the top of the page. This is a notification message that will be discussed in a later section. It will not prevent you from entering your data (however, you won't be able to submit this voucher until the corrections are made).

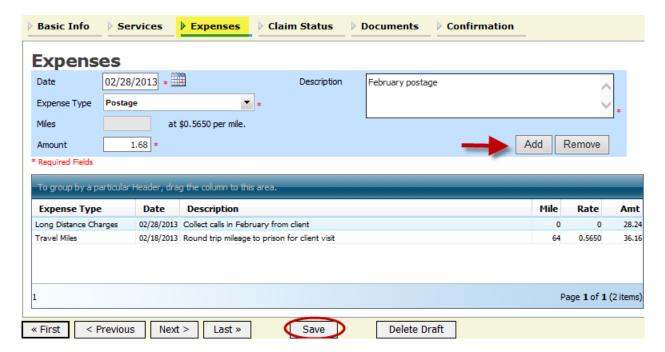
Note: the hourly rate is based on the date entered and will change accordingly if your entries span different rate periods.

If you will not be completing your voucher at this point, hit the save button to save what you have entered. When you return to your Home Page, this voucher will now appear in your "My Active Documents" section. You may return to this voucher at any time by clicking on the "Edit" hyperlink.



Expenses

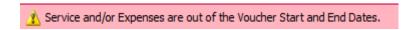
Next, enter your expenses in the same manner as Service entries. Mileage will be calculated automatically based on the date entered.



To make a correction to an entry in either the Services or Expenses section, click on the entry you wish to change (the entry will be displayed in the top section), make your change and click the Add button again.

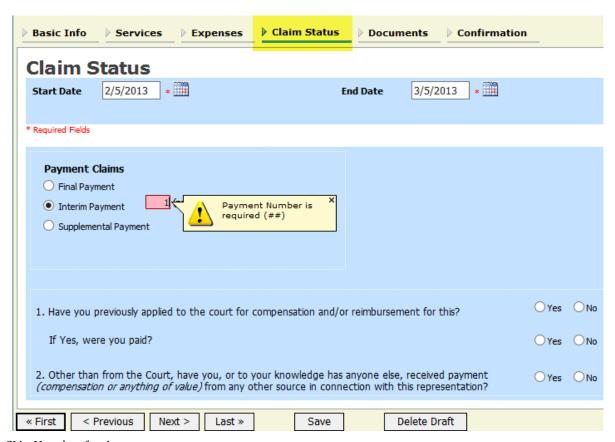
Note: The Delete Draft button will delete the entire document so DO NOT click on this button unless you want to delete the document you are working on.

As mentioned above, once you begin entering data on the Services and/or Expenses tab, you may receive what looks like an error message:

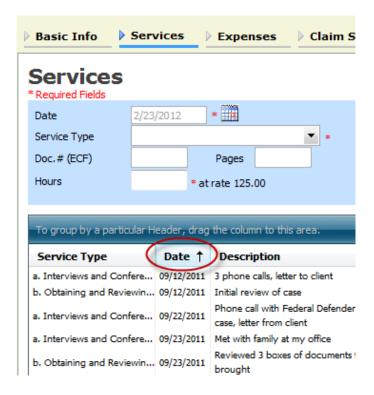


This error message will be removed when you complete the next section.

Claim Status



CJA eVoucher for Attorneys Third Circuit Court of Appeals Enter the start and end date of this voucher. To easily find out what are the earliest and latest dates, go to the Services (or Expenses) tab and click on the "Date" column heading once to sort chronologically by the date:



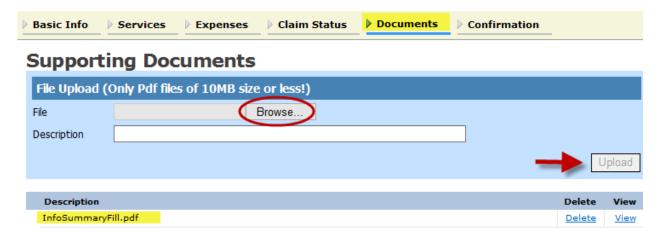
Click on Date again and it will sort in reverse chronological order (to find the end date). Once you have entered the correct start and end dates in the Claim Status section, save the voucher and the error message should go away (if it does not, try refreshing your browser).

Note: Not having the correct start and end dates on the Claim Status tab is the most common problem experienced by attorneys with the eVoucher system.

Documents

The documents tab is available for you to attach pertinent documents to the voucher (or any other document) you are submitting to the court. For example, if you are submitting a voucher that exceeds the statutory maximum, you would upload your justification statement here. This section is also where you would attach receipts for expenses.

Click on Browse to locate your file within your computer. [Note: In Safari, it will say Choose File.] A separate window will open for you to search for the file you wish to attach. Once you find the file, click the Open button within the pop-up window. You then have the option to rename the file in the Description field. If you do not rename it, it will default to the original name of the file. Click the Upload button to upload the file to eVoucher. The document will appear in the list below. You can add as many documents as you wish, but there is a 10MB limit for each document.



You can Delete or View the documents as necessary.

If you are not submitting your voucher at this time, **remember to hit the Save button** once you have uploaded your documents.

Confirmation

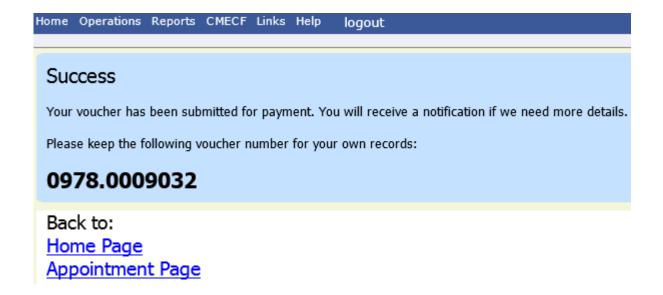
The last tab is the Confirmation tab which resembles the paper version of the CJA voucher. It will list all the inputted hours in the appropriate categories as well as the expenses.

CLAIMS FOR SERVICES AND EXPENSES			
CATEGORIES	HOURS CLAIMED	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	ADJUSTED HOURS
 a. Arraignment and/or Plea 	0	\$0.00	
b. Bail and Detention Hearing	0	\$0.00	
c. Motion	0	\$0.00	
d. Trial	0	\$0.00	
e. Sentencing Hearings	0	\$0.00	
f. Revocation Hearings	0	\$0.00	
g. Appeals Court	0	\$0.00	
h. Other	0	\$0.00	
Tota	ls 0	\$0.00	
16. a. Interviews and Conferences	4.8	\$600.00	
b. Obtaining and Reviewing Records	18.7	\$2,337.50	
c. Legal Research and Brief Writing	5.4	\$675.00	
d. Travel Time	0	\$0.00	
e. Investigative or Other Work	4.2	\$525.00	
Tota	ls 33.1	\$4,137.50	
Travel Expenses (lodging, parking, meals, mileage, etc.)		\$36.16	
Other Expenses (other than expert, transcripts, etc.)		\$28.24	
GRAND TOTALS (CLAIMED AND ADJUSTED)		\$4,201.90	
19. CERTIFICATION OF ATTORNEY FOR THE PERIOD OF SERVICE 20. APPOINTMENT TERMINATION THAN CASE COMPLETION FROM: 2/5/2013 TO: 3/29/2013			
22. CLAIM STATUS Final Payment	Interim Payment (#1)	Suppl	emental Payment

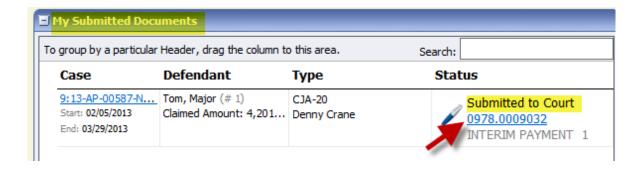
At the bottom of the voucher is an area where you can type a note to the court. Once you are ready to submit the voucher, check the box and hit the Submit button.

Attention: The notes you enter will be available to the next approval level.			
Public/Attorney Notes		^	
		V	
\	d affirm the truth or correctness of the above statements 2014 10:43:42	Submit	

If you have done everything correctly, you will receive a Success notification and the program will automatically assign the document a voucher number.



Go back to your Home Page and you will see that the voucher has moved from the "My Active Documents" section to the "My Submitted Documents" section. You can still click on the voucher number hyperlink and view the document, but it will be in Read Only format.



Printing a copy of the voucher



To view, save in pdf, and/or print a hard copy of this voucher, go to the Reports section within the voucher and click on the report entitled Form CJA20 (or 30).

The document will include the confirmation page (i.e., the "face" page of the voucher, and the detailed service and expense entries.

Note: Each individual court has the ability to name reports. This report may be called something different in each court (*e.g.*, it could be called simply CJA20 or CJA20 printout, etc.).

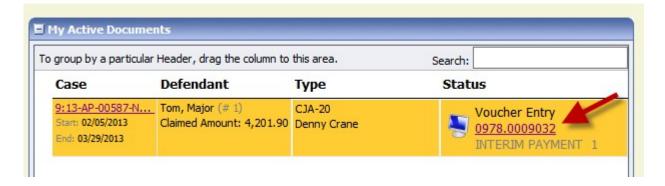
This feature is available at any point (e.g., prior to submission, once submitted to the court, and when the voucher is closed). It is also available for CJA21/31s.

Rejected Documents

A voucher may be rejected by the court for a number of reasons. The most common reason a voucher is rejected is missing documentation. The court may also reject a voucher and ask for clarification.

The court will write the reason the voucher is being rejected in the Public/Attorney Notes section of the Confirmation page (see page 22). A separate email detailing the reason(s) for the rejection will be sent to the attorney using the email address on the attorney's profile page.

If you receive an email that your voucher has been rejected, log into eVoucher and you will see the voucher in the "My Active Documents" folder highlighted in gold:



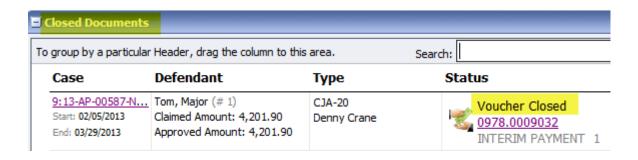
It is a good idea to periodically log into eVoucher and check to make sure you have no rejected documents (in case the email fails to reach you). Click on the voucher number and go straight to the confirmation page to check the Notes section to determine the reason the voucher was rejected. Once the voucher has been corrected, it can be resubmitted by checking the "swear and affirm" box again and clicking the Submit button.

Closed Documents

Once submitted, the document will go through the court review process:

- Initial review by a CJA staff person
- Review by the authoring judge
- Review by the Chief Circuit Judge or his designee (if the statutory maximum has been exceeded)
- Return to the CJA court staff for final certification for payment

Once the document goes through this procedure, it will move from the My Submitted Documents" folder to the "Closed Documents" folder:



The system will automatically send an email to the address(es) in the attorney profile section to alert you that the voucher has been approved for payment.

You can still view this document by clicking on the voucher number, but it will be in Read Only format.

<u>Note</u>: Periodically, court staff will archive closed vouchers. When a document is archived, it will be removed from the Closed Documents list. However, you can still access the voucher by clicking on the case number on the Appointments' List (on the Home page) or using the search features.

Requests for Interim Payments

Counsel may request an interim voucher in a hardship situation.

Submitting the Request

- A request for interim payments is submitted to the court through the CJA eVoucher program, and is no longer filed in CM/ECF. The motion/letter can be attached to the voucher as a document. (See instructions on page 22).
- The Court will authorize the request within the eVoucher program.
- If the request for interim payment is denied, the voucher will be rejected and counsel may resubmit the voucher at the end of the case.