## **CP FILEMAKER SYSTEM**

The URL for this program is <a href="http://www.connacadmin.com">http://www.connacadmin.com</a>

All questions concerning child protection appointments should be emailed to <a href="https://ocentro.org/nc/pdf.ct.gov">OCPDCP@pds.ct.gov</a>. The paralegal handling your court will respond as appropriate.

All general child protection billing questions should be directed to Jaime.Delarosa@pds.ct.gov

All hourly billing requests for child protection should be directed to <u>Alix.Walmsley@pds.ct.gov</u> and <u>Susan.Hamilton@pds.ct.gov</u> Please cc: <u>Jaime.Delarosa@pds.ct.gov</u> on the request

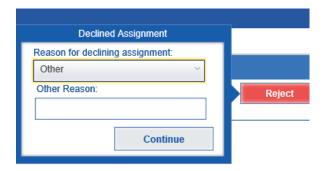
## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Attorneys will be notified of appointments via email. Any email that is marked high-priority(!) means the hearing date for that appointment is within the next five days. Please login to Filemaker and accept or decline the appointment within 24 hours from when the email was send to you.

New cases that need to be accepted or declined will appear at the top of your caselist when you login.



If you are declining a case you must give OCPD the reason you cannot accept the appointment. After you hit decline choose reason from the drop-down list. If you choose "Other" you must provide a further explanation of what conflict you have that prevents you from taking the case. Filemaker will inform the paralegals that the case needs to be reassigned.



# **CASELIST**

The caselist defaults to show the appointments for the past six months.

To view more of your cases, change the date range in the box and set Status to All:



You may also search for a specific client by typing the last name of the client in the search box:



## REMOVING CLOSED CASES FROM CASELIST SEARCH

If you know a case is closed and don't want it coming up in your search anymore you click the closed button in the right hand corner of case assignment. To bring up cases you are marked closed on the search check the





## **NOA**

Click on the Download the NOA button to save and/or print the Notice of Appointment. If this icon is missing contact OCPD to have it generated.



# **Entering Unavailable Dates**

You can inform us of vacation/unavailable dates directly in FM. Under "Firm Info" from your home screen, scroll all the way down to Court section and enter dates for your assigned locations.

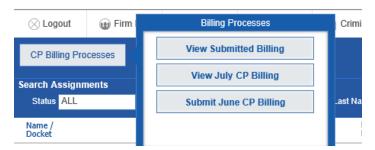


# **Billing**

It is important to note for CP the system will only allow you to submit one bill per month.

Hourly entries and mentor entries can be entered at any time throughout the month. You must make all hourly entries under the respective client prior to going to submit your monthly invoice. Each entry for the month will appear on the hourly screen and you mark it to submit it.

The Billing Processes tab is located in the upper left hand corner



Under this tab you will have three options.

**View Submitted Billing** – Select this tab to view all prior submissions made to OCPD. Click on the specific invoice to see details of bill.

**View (Current Month) CP Billing-** Select this tab to view hourly activities that have been entered for the current month to date. (Hourly Dashboard) During the month you can enter your hourly billable activities under the client's name. When you go to bill for the month you will need to check off all the activities in order to submit them for billing.

**Submit (Prior Month) CP Billing** – Select to submit your bill for the prior month. All submissions will be completed for the month at one time. First flat fees, then standby, mentoring activities and finally hourly submissions. There are several steps in this process and your bill is not submitted until you hit the final "Submit Bill" button.

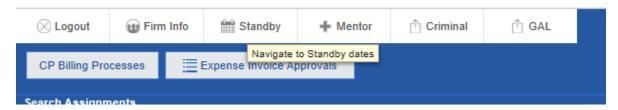
#### **Flat Rate Assignments**

You will choose whether or not you are eligible for a flat rate payment for each "new" appointment you received for the month. Refer to the CP Billing Procedures for flat rate cases for clarification of flat rate cases based on client type. Click "Yes" to submit a bill for the \$500 flat fee payment or "No" if you have already been paid or submitted a flat fee for this case type. Note: for parent clients with multiple children, you will receive notice on each child. You should only be requesting payment or marking "yes" on one of the docket number and mark "no" for the additional cases.

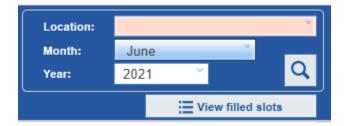


#### **STANDBY**

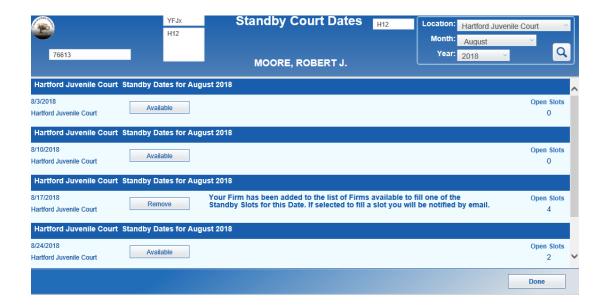
Standby availability and scheduling is done via Filemaker. To enter availability or to check dates you are scheduled for click the View Standby Dates box from the home screen.



You must choose the court location (even if you are assigned only one location) the month and date and then hit the search button (magnifying glass icon) to view dates for availability or scheduling.



Choose the dates you are available by clicking the box. If you are no longer available for a date before the schedule has been made, simply click the remove box to remove availability.





#### Payments for OTC standby coverage

All payments for standby coverage are automatically carried over to your monthly invoice based on the schedule in the program. If you notice you are missing a date you provided coverage for, please contact OCPD prior to submitting your bill. Each date will automatically generate the \$175 fee.

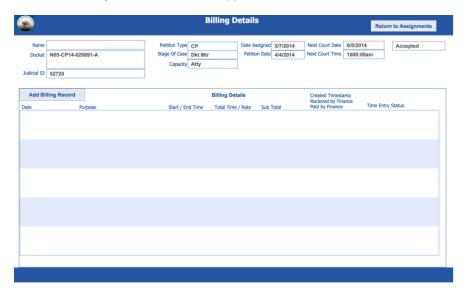
#### **MENTOR BILLING**

If OCPD requests you serve as a mentor for a new contact attorney you may bill hourly for mentoring activities. The hourly rate is \$50 an hour. You must provide the name of your mentee and brief description of work done

#### **HOURLY BILLING**

Enter hourly billing in the system either on a daily, weekly or monthly basis depending on your preference. All hourly submissions must be entered by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of following month for which you are billing. Any entry made during the month will be found when you go to submit your monthly bill. You can view the entries made to date by clicking the "View (current month) CP Billing" tab.

## Click Add Billing Record button in upper left corner



Choose Attorney from dropdown. Enter the Date; Start and End Time (must include AM/PM); choose "Entry Type" from the drop down and enter the "Purpose" or description of hourly work done.



The system will automatically check for records with the same date and time. If a record for the same time exists Filemaker will reject your newest submission and give you the name of the case for which you already entered that specific time. You cannot bill for the same minute on two cases. In other words, if you end activity at 3:00 the next activity must begin at 3:01.

Filemaker will list all hourly submissions entered for the month. Click the small button on the left to submit the entries on the bill.



#### **SUBMIT BILLS**

To submit your bill hit the green DONE-SUBMIT BILLING button in the lower right corner of the hourly billing screen.



You may export your monthly bill to excel and save and/or print a copy for your records. Bills for child protection are monthly by court. If you have multiple court locations you will submit one bill but it will separate them out by court locations.

Payments for bills submitted will be received by the 45<sup>th</sup> day from your submissions. If you have not received payment by the 46<sup>th</sup> day from your submission you may submit a billing inquiry to <a href="mailto:Audrey.Gilzene@pds.ct.gov">Audrey.Gilzene@pds.ct.gov</a>.

## **FEE SCHEDULE**

# I FLAT FEE PAYMENTS

Cases are billable based on the date of acceptance in the program and not by the date of appointment. If a case is missing at the end of the month notify <a href="mailto:Jaime.delarosa@pds.ct.gov">Jaime.delarosa@pds.ct.gov</a> and it will be added for the next month.

#### **CHILD**

When representing a CHILD as Attorney or GAL each petition type is a \$500 flat rate payment. Petition types: CP, TPR, Co-terms (\$1000 flat fee payment), PCGs, PCTs, RPG, Adoption {no GALs on adoption unless it is contested petition- prior approval required}, Motions for permanent legal guardianship in closed cases.

## **PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS**

When representing a PARENT/LG one \$500 flat fee per petition type per party regardless of the number of children

If parent has five children you get one \$500 payment for each petition type. If mother/father has five children you mark yes on one assignment and no on the other four.

If parent has another child after there has been a disposition on the original appointment it is a new payment

If the parent is non-custodial parent with two separate cases open but not being heard together you may bill a flat rate for both cases

If you are appointed for two parties on the same case (i.e. both parents, two legal guardians) it is one flat rate payment. You **may not** bill \$500 for each client.

#### **DELINQUENCY GAL**

For all delinquency GAL appointments it is **one** \$500 flat fee per child regardless of the number of cases open.

## **IOJ and STATE RATE APPOINTMENTS**

If your appointment is a State-Rate or IOJ appointment this does not affect your payment. Please refer to the category the client fits into above and bill accordingly.

#### **STANDBY**

A flat rate of \$175 is paid for each standby date.

## **II HOURLY BILLING -**

All catergoes are mandatory and must be filled out. Please put a description of activity under Purpose.



## **Hourly Billing Types:**

**Administrative Case Review** – Attendance at ACR hearings, case review meetings

Appeal Review – ONLY when you have been appointed to do the appeal review on a case

**Appeal to AC/SC**— When you are representing a client in a case on appeal at AC or SC (rate is generated at \$75 hr)

**Approved Hourly – ONLY** when you have been granted permission for hourly billing on a case by Alix Walmsley and Susan Hamilton.

Client Visit - Visit to client at home, meeting with client outside courthouse

Virtual Client Visit (COVID) - Telephonic, Facetime visits allowed 4 times per year per client

**Considered Removal Hearings** – Attendance at removal hearings

Judicial Pretrial Hearings- attendance at judicial pretrial hearings

**Permanency Team Meeting-** attendance at permanency meetings

**RSVP** – Specifically for cases assigned to Judicial's RSVP program

**Travel** – Time you travel to meeting/visit/court location outside of jurisdiction

**Treatment Planning Conference** – Attendance of treatment planning conferences

**Trial** – Hourly payment for court time while on trial.

You MUST break down trial time into sessions and must indicate if you worked during lunch if you are billing for that hour

WRONG ENTRY: 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Trial

CORRECT ENTRY: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. trial – trial a.m. session

1:01 p.m. to 1:59p.m. – Trial – (Worked over lunch break to prepare witness, etc.)

2:00 p.m. to 5:00p.m. – Trial - trial p.m. session

**Activities that are not covered under hourly billing**: correspondence with DCF, client, providers or other parties to case; drafting of motions, pleading, replies, etc. on non-appellate proceedings.

If you have been granted "hourly billing" on a case by Attorneys Walmsley and Hamilton you may submit these under Approved Hourly with the description of the activity under "Purpose"