

CHAPTER 14  
CLAIMS FOR ATTORNEY FEES IN 600A TERMINATIONS

**493—14.1(13B,600A,815) Scope.** This chapter sets forth specific rules for submission, review and payment of claims for attorney fees in proceedings under Iowa Code chapter 600A. Unless modified in this chapter, the provisions of 493—Chapters 7, 11 and 12 apply to such claims.

**493—14.2(13B,600A,815) Definitions.** The following definitions apply only to this chapter.

*“Indigent”* means the person has an income level at or below 100 percent of the United States poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, unless the court determines that the person is able to pay for the cost of an attorney in the pending case. In making the determination of a person’s ability to pay for the cost of an attorney, the court shall consider not only the person’s income, but also the availability of any assets subject to execution, including but not limited to cash, stocks, bonds, and any other property which may be applied to the satisfaction of judgments, and the nature and complexity of the case.

[ARC 1512C, IAB 6/25/14, effective 7/30/14]

**493—14.3(13B,600A,815) Hourly rate and fee limitations.** Unless the attorney has a contract with the state public defender that provides for a different rate or manner of payment, claims for attorney fees in a termination of parental rights case under Iowa Code chapter 600A to which the attorney was appointed after March 11, 2004, and before July 1, 2006, shall be paid at the rate of \$50 per hour, with a fee limitation of \$500 for the trial court proceedings and \$500 for appellate proceedings. Claims for attorney fees in a termination of parental rights case under Iowa Code chapter 600A to which the attorney was appointed after June 30, 2006, and before July 1, 2007, shall be paid at the rate of \$55 per hour, with a fee limitation of \$550 for the trial court proceedings and \$550 for appellate proceedings. Claims for attorney fees in a termination of parental rights case under Iowa Code chapter 600A to which the attorney was appointed after June 30, 2007, shall be paid at the rate of \$60 per hour, with a fee limitation of \$600 for the trial court proceedings and \$600 for appellate proceedings.

**493—14.4(13B,600A,815) Limitations on other charges and expenses.** For appeals, the state public defender shall approve claims for the actual cost of a transcript and printing of necessary briefs. The state public defender shall not approve claims for travel time, paralegal time, or other out-of-pocket expenses at the trial or appellate level.

**493—14.5(13B,600A,815) Claims for attorney fees.** Except as provided in this chapter, claims for attorney fees for representing the respondent in proceedings for termination of parental rights cases under Iowa Code chapter 600A shall be reviewed by the state public defender in the same manner as provided in 493—Chapter 12.

**14.5(1)** Claim forms. Claims for services provided at the trial level shall be submitted on a Juvenile claim form. Claims for services provided on appeal shall be submitted on an Appellate claim form.

**14.5(2)** Required documents. In addition to the other requirements provided in 493—Chapter 12, the attorney shall submit a copy of both the petitioner’s and respondent’s financial affidavit and any order of the juvenile court determining that the state public defender rather than the petitioner is responsible for payment of the respondent’s attorney fees.

**14.5(3)** The provisions for review of the state public defender’s action provided in 493—Chapter 12 shall apply to claims submitted under this chapter.

**14.5(4)** If the petitioner or prospective parent is responsible for payment of the indigent respondent’s attorney fees and expenses, the state public defender does not receive, review, or pay the fee claim. Any such claim submitted to the state public defender will be returned to the attorney who submitted the claim.

[ARC 1512C, IAB 6/25/14, effective 7/30/14]

**493—14.6(13B,600A,815) Report to judicial branch.** The state public defender shall submit quarterly to the state court administrator a report detailing all approved and paid attorney fee claims for termination of parental rights cases under Iowa Code chapter 600A.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 13B, 600A, 815 and 908 as amended by 2005 Iowa Acts, House File 683.

[Filed emergency 5/25/05—published 6/22/05, effective 5/25/05]

[Filed 7/27/05, Notice 6/22/05—published 8/17/05, effective 10/15/05]

[Filed 1/13/06, Notice 10/26/05—published 2/1/06, effective 3/8/06]

[Filed emergency 5/23/06—published 6/21/06, effective 7/1/06]

[Filed 8/11/06, Notice 6/21/06—published 8/30/06, effective 10/4/06]

[Filed emergency 6/15/07—published 7/4/07, effective 7/1/07]

[Filed 8/8/07, Notice 7/4/07—published 8/29/07, effective 10/3/07]

[Filed emergency 2/1/08—published 2/27/08, effective 2/1/08]

[Filed 4/3/08, Notice 2/27/08—published 4/23/08, effective 5/28/08]

[Filed ARC 1512C (Notice ARC 1437C, IAB 4/30/14), IAB 6/25/14, effective 7/30/14]