

Changes to Criminal Tariff

The Board of Directors has accepted the recommendation of the Criminal Tariff Committee that the planned elimination of payments for show cause hearings in courts where duty counsel is present should **NOT** proceed. However, given the grave financial constraints on the Society, alternate reductions to provide the planned savings had to be made. The Board has also accepted the Criminal Tariff Committee's recommendations in this regard.

In addition to the reductions to the Criminal Tariff already announced, the Board of Directors determined on April 9, 1997 that the tariffs should be further reduced by \$200,000, to be determined in consultation with the tariff committees from the tariffs, as opposed to through further increase to the holdbacks. The Criminal Tariff Committee has determined its reduction in this regard as outlined below:

Reduction to photocopying charges:

For photocopies made on and after July 1, 1997, the allowable charge will be \$0.05 per page in criminal and criminal appeal cases and you should use the new photocopying code **382**. Please track your photocopies at this new rate after July 1, 1997 and bill all pre-July photocopying as soon as possible. We will rely on counsel's own accounting of photocopying charges until September, at which point we will start to tax all photocopy charges down to the new rate unless a specific breakdown of the photocopy charges accompanies the account. (Please note that half this reduction is to help to offset the retention of show cause hearings, and the other half in regards to the further \$200,000 reduction).

Reduction to meterage and parking for Lower Mainland only:

For travel done on and after July 1, 1997, counsel will no longer be paid for meterage or parking on referrals issued from referring offices in the Lower Mainland where the court location is in the same municipality as the referring office, unless the charge for meterage is for a visit to a client in custody and is specifically noted as such on the billing form. This rule applies on all criminal and criminal appeal referrals issued in the Lower Mainland, except for those referrals on which authorization for travel is specifically noted. Lower Mainland means referring offices at Vancouver, North Shore (including both North and West Vancouver), Burnaby, Port Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Richmond, New Westminster, Langley, and Surrey.

We will rely on counsel's own accounting of pre-July 1st travel until September, at which point we will start to tax all meterage and parking on applicable referrals, unless specific dates of travel are included with the account.

The Criminal Tariff Committee will continue to discuss the extension of this policy to communities outside the Lower Mainland. You will be advised of further decisions in future notices.

Reduction to fees for disclosure court appearances:

For all referrals with dates of assignment on and after June 23, 1997, disclosure court appearances will be paid as follows:

Category I	Not applicable
Category II	\$75.00
Category III	\$112.50
Category IV	\$150.00