

# CJA eVoucher

**Attorney User Manual** 

Release 5.1





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### Introduction

The CJA eVoucher System is a web-based solution for submission, monitoring and management of all Criminal Justice ACT (CJA) functions. The eVoucher program will allow for:

- On-line authorization requests by attorneys for service providers
- On-line voucher completion by the service provider or by the attorney acting for the service provider
- On-line voucher review and submission by the attorney
- On-line submission to the court

In the District of New Jersey, attorneys will be required to create and submit vouchers on behalf of their service providers for approval. The program includes the following modules:

### **Panel Management**

- Allows attorneys to manage their own account information including address, phone, firm associations and applicable CLE credits.
- Allows for submission of holding periods or a specific amount of time taken off for medical leave, vacation, etc.

### **Voucher & Authorization Request Submission**

- Authorization requests by attorneys for expert services.
- Requests by attorneys for interim payment.
- Upload supporting documents to vouchers or authorization requests.
- Reports for attorneys to take an active part in monitoring costs.
- Automatic e-mail notification to attorney of approval or rejection of vouchers and authorization requests.

### **Browser Compatibility**

- Windows: Internet Explorer 8 or newer are approved.
- Apple Macintosh: Safari 5.1 or newer is approved.
- Chrome, Firefox and other browsers may not be used with CJA.

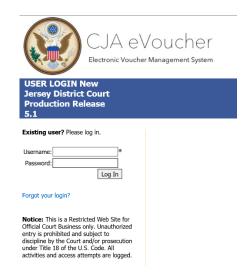
### **Court Appointment**

When an appointment is made, an email will automatically be generated by the program, and sent to the appointed attorney. The email will confirm the appointment and provide a link to the CJA eVoucher program.

# **Accessing the CJA eVoucher Program**

The Court will provide information on how to access eVoucher. It is suggested that you bookmark it for easier access.

Login using your Username and Password you were provided, and click Log In



Users will be required to change their passwords within **30 days** of the first time they login to eVoucher. Passwords must be at least eight characters in length and contain:

- One lower-case character
- One upper-case character
- One number
- One special character

Users are required to change their passwords every 180 days. The system will prompt you when your password is about to expire.

If you forget your user name or password, click **Forgot your Login.** 

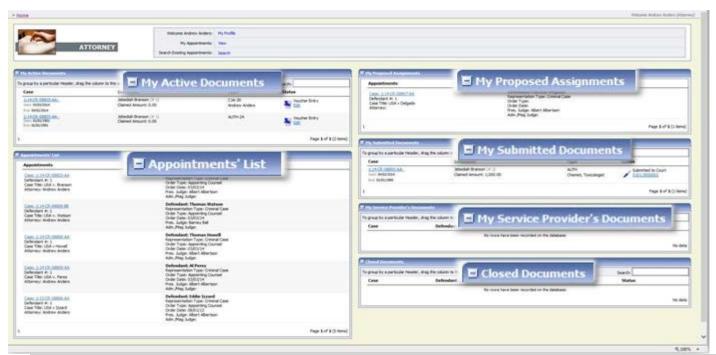
Enter your user name or email address, and click **Recover Logon** to retrieve your information.



# **Home Page**

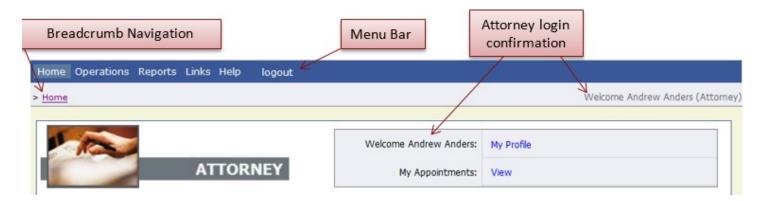
Your home page provides access to all of your appointments and vouchers.

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.



Folder Descriptions	
My Active Documents	Contains documents that you are currently working on or have been submitted to you by the Court for correction or approval. These documents are waiting for action by you.
Appointments' List	Quick reference to all your appointments.
My Proposed Assignments	Cases will appear in this folder if an appointment has been proposed to you and you have not accepted or rejected the appointment. This feature will not be used in the District of New Jersey at this time.
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 or interim payments will also appear in this folder.
My Service Provider's Documents	Contains all the vouchers for your service providers.  This will include:  Vouchers in progress by the experts  Vouchers submitted by the attorney for approval and submission to the court  Vouchers signed off by the attorney and submitted to the court for payment
Closed Documents	Contains documents that have been paid or have been approved by the court. Closed documents will only be displayed for open cases. When the appointment is completed, the closed documents will no longer be displayed on your homepage. They are still accessible through the appointment page.

# **Navigating in the CJA eVoucher Program**



Menu Bar Items	
Home	The eVoucher 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, guides, publications, etc.
Help	<ul> <li>Provides:</li> <li>Another link to your Profile</li> <li>"Contact Us" email</li> <li>Privacy Notice</li> <li>eVoucher help documentation for attorneys and experts</li> </ul>
Logout	Logs user off the eVoucher program

# **Customizing the Home Page**

Customizing your home page allows you to alter the manner in which your information is displayed in the folders.

**Expanding/Collapsing Folders:** Click the plus sign to expand a folder. Click the minus sign to collapse a folder.

#### **Moving Folders**



Place your mouse pointer on the top edge of the folder you wish to relocate.

A crosshair icon will appear.



Drag the folder to the new location and release the mouse.

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

#### **Resizing of Column**



Along the folder headings (e.g. case, defendant, type, etc.), move your cursor to the line between the columns until a double arrow appears.



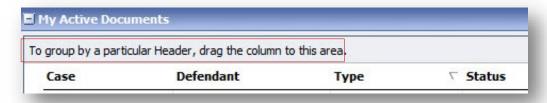
Drag the line in the desired direction to enlarge or reduce the column size.

#### Note:

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

### **Customizing the Home Page (continued)**

**Group by Column Heading:** You may sort all the information within a folder by grouping documents by the column heading. All folders displaying the "Group Header bar" may be sorted in this manner.

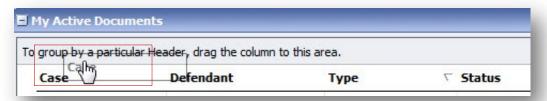




Click the header for the column you wish to group.



Hold the cursor and drag the header to the "Group by Header" bar.



Step 3

Release the cursor and all the information in that folder will be grouped and sorted by that selection.

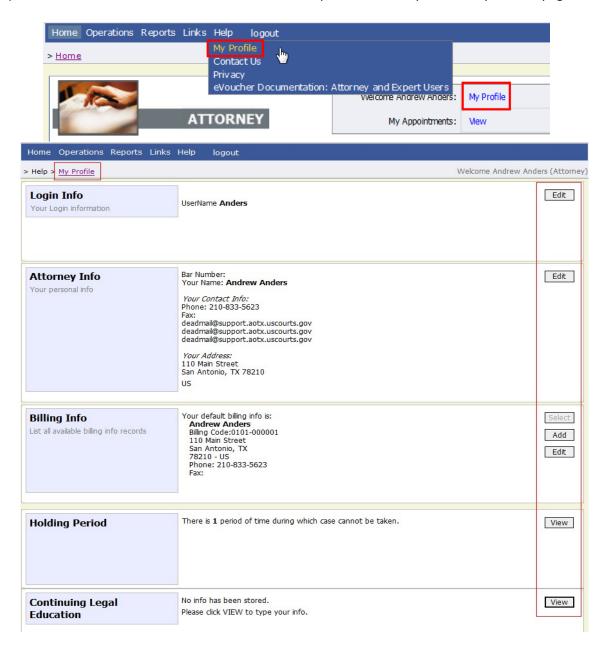


### **My Profile**

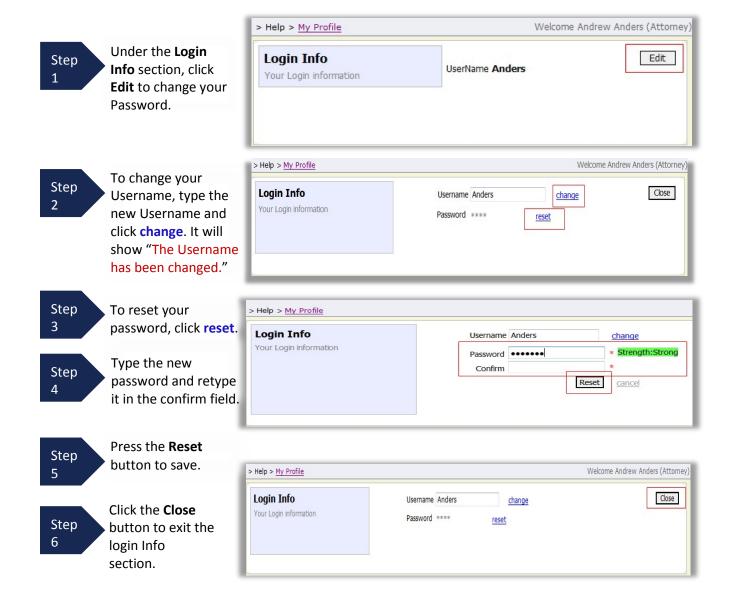
In the My Profile section, the attorney may:

- Change user name and password (Login Info section.)
- Edit contact information, phone, e-mail, physical address (Attorney Info section.)
- Update Social Security number (SSN) or employee identification number (EIN), and any firm affiliation (**Billing Info** section). Any changes to SSN after the first login must be made through the court.
- Document any CLE attendance (Continuing Legal Education section.)

Click the My Profile link from either the Home screen or the Help menu bar to open the "My Profile" page.



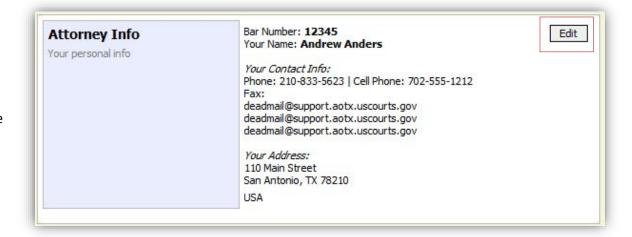
# **Changing My Profile Username and Password**



# **Attorney Info**



Under the
Attorney Info
section, click the
Edit button to
access your
personal
information.



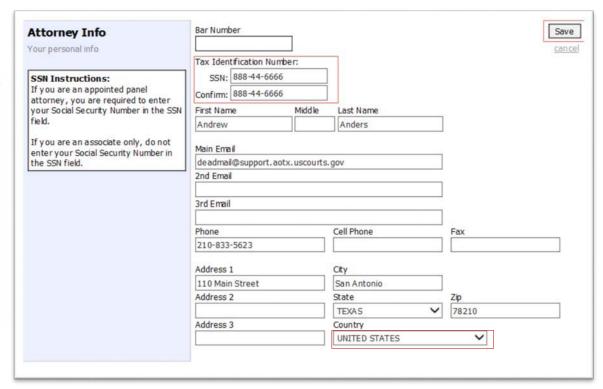
Step 2

Make any necessary changes.

Note: A social security number is required of all attorneys in eVoucher (except Associates). If the number entered is incorrect, please contact the help desk as soon as possible.



Click Save.



#### Note:

- The Country field will automatically populate USA, unless otherwise entered.
- You may list as many as three Email addresses. Notifications from eVoucher will be sent to all Email addresses.

# **Billing Info**



Under the Billing Info section, please review the default billing information entered by the Court.



Step 2

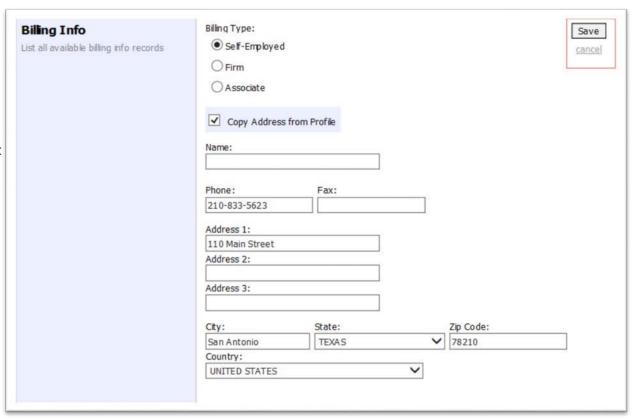
• Click **Edit** if you wish to change the information already entered. **NOTE**: You may only edit your name and contact information. If you wish to add new billing information, please see Step 4.

#### Note:

- You must have billing information entered before any payments can be made.
- The SSN/EIN is used when reporting income to the IRS.
- You may use the Copy Address from Profile checkbox if your billing address is the same as your Attorney Info address.



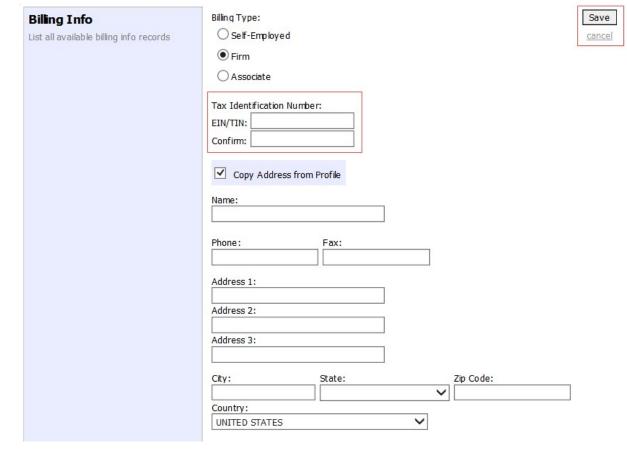
Make any necessary changes to your name and/or contact information and click **Save**.



### Step 4

If necessary, you may **Add** Billing Info for a Firm by entering the EIN/TIN number and completing the profile and clicking Save.

NOTE: If an
Associate has
been approved in
one of your
cases, please
contact the help
desk for an
Associate user
name and
password.
Please refer to
Addendum #1 for
more
information on
Associate use.





If you choose to add additional billing information, please be sure to select your default billing information for payment by clicking on the appropriate radio button and hitting **Select.** 



#### Note:

 Attorneys with a pre-existing agreement must enter the firm's EIN and name (required)

# **Continuing Legal Education**

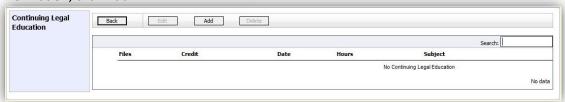


Under the **Continuing Legal Education** section, click the **View** button to access your CLE information.



Step 2

To add CLE information, click Add



Step 3

Click the **Credit** dropdown menu to select CLE categories.



Step 4

Enter the **Date**, the number of **Hours**, and a **Description**.

Step 5

Click Save.

#### Note:

After information is saved, you'll be able to upload related PDF documents.

# **Continuing Legal Education (cont'd)**

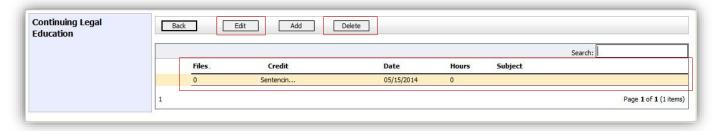


Click **Browse**, to upload and attach a PDF document.





All entries will be appear in the grid and can be accessed, edited, or deleted by selecting the entry and choosing an action button.



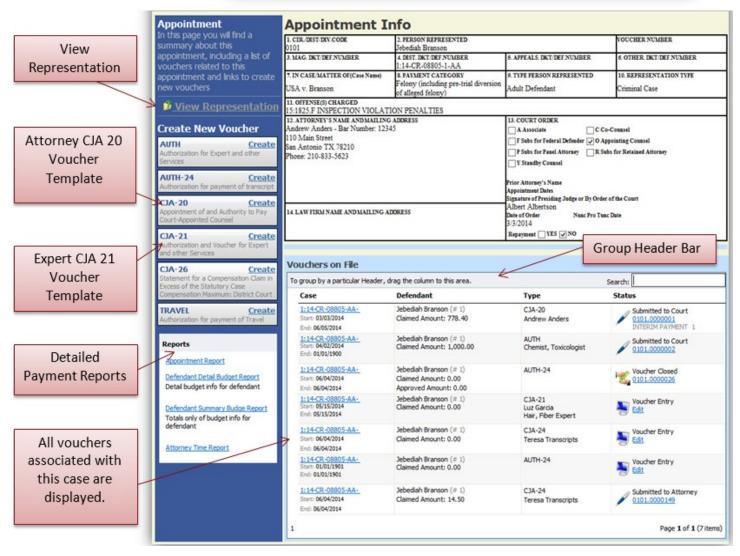
# **Appointment's List**

Locate the **Appointments** section under the Appointment's List on your home page.



Click the case number hyperlink to open the **Appointment** page.





# **View Representation**

The View Representation information will display:

- Default excess fee limit
- Presiding judge
- Magistrate judge
- Co-counsel
- · Previous counsel



From the Appointment page open, click **View Representation**.





Step 3

Click **Home** on the Menu bar at the top of the page.

### **CJA 20 Voucher Process Overview**

Attorney enters time/expenses and submits voucher

Voucher audited by Court CJA Administrator Voucher review and approval (or rejection) by Court

Voucher processed for payment by Court

### **Creating the CJA 20 Voucher**

The Court creates the appointment. The attorney will initiate the CJA 20 voucher.

#### Note:

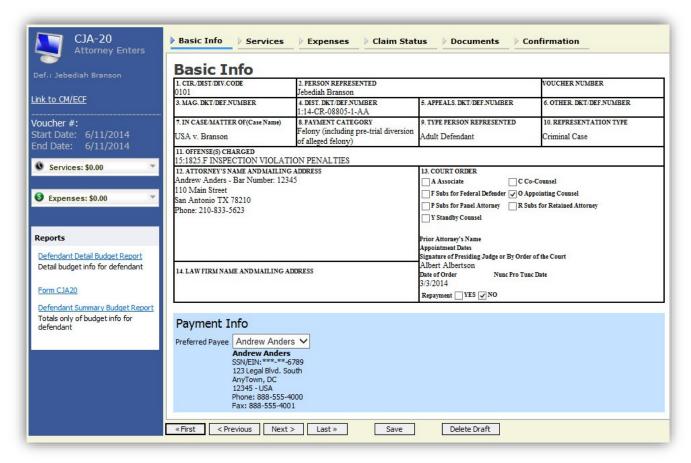
All voucher types and documents function primarily the same.



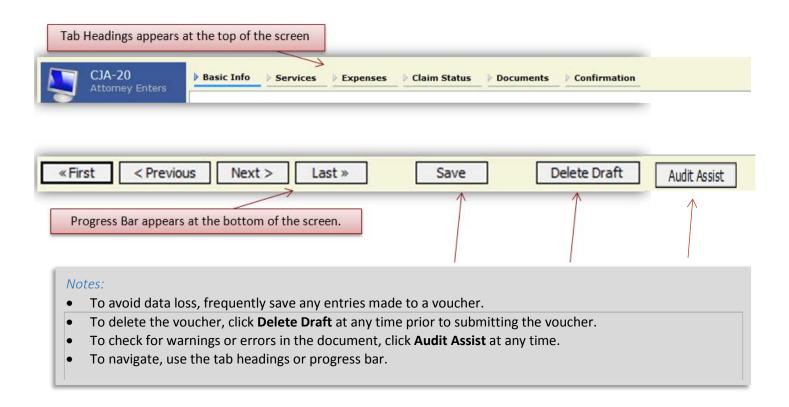
From the **Appointment** page click **Create** from the CJA 20 Voucher template.

CJA-20 Create
Appointment of and Authority to Pay
Court-Appointed Counsel

The voucher opens to the **Basic Info** page which displays the information in the paper voucher format.



# Creating the CJA 20 Voucher (cont'd)



# **Entering Services**

Line item time entries should be entered on the Services tab.

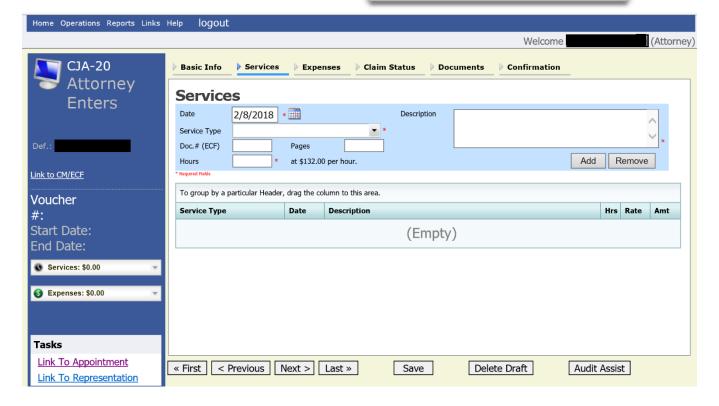
Both In-Court and Out-of Court time should be recorded on this screen.



Click the **Services** tab or click **Next**, located on the progress bar.

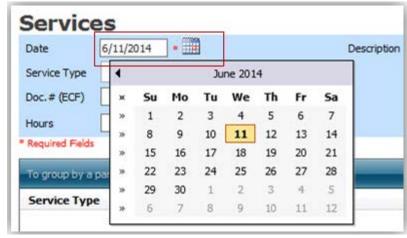
#### Note:

There is **NOT AN AUTOSAVE** function on this program. You must click **Save** periodically to save your work.

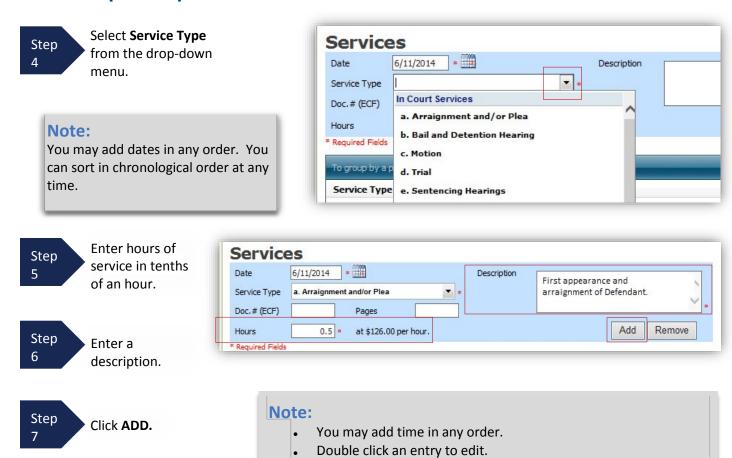


Step 3

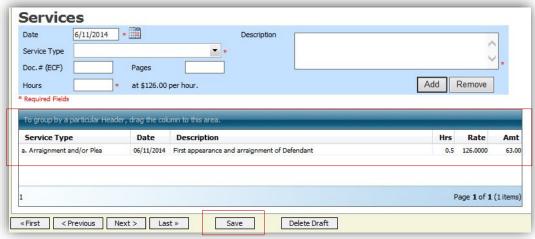
Enter the date of the service. The default date is always the current date. You may type the date or click the **calendar** icon to select a date from the pop-up calendar.



### Services (cont'd)



The entry will be added to the voucher and appear at the bottom of the Service Type section.



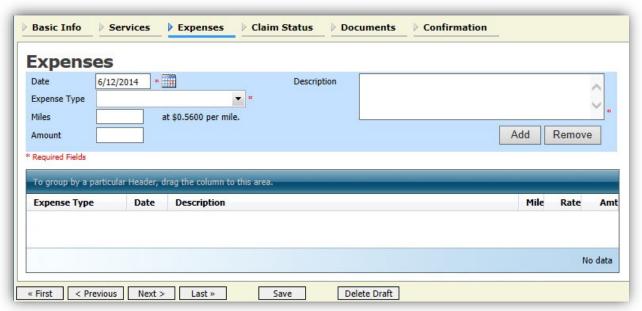
Step Click the **Date** header. This will sort services according to date.

Step Click **Save**.

### **Entering Expenses**

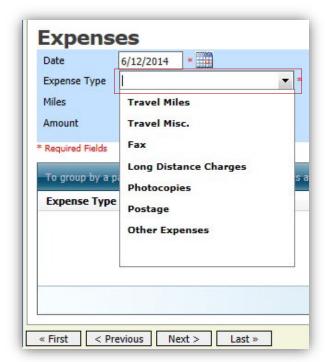


Click the **Expenses** tab or click the **Next** option located on the Progress bar.



Step 2

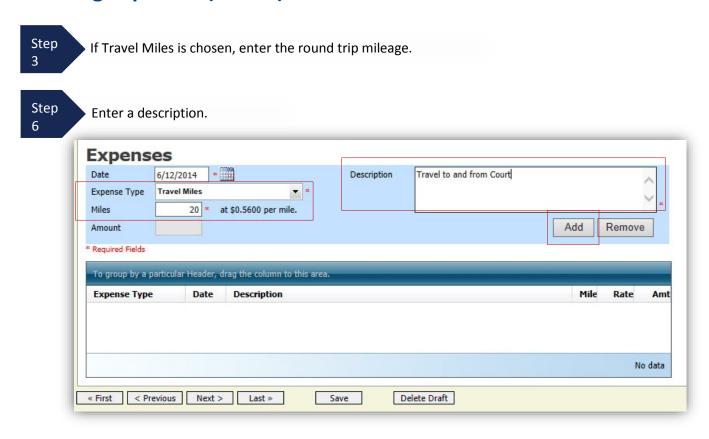
Enter the Expense Type from the Expense Type drop-down menu.



#### Note

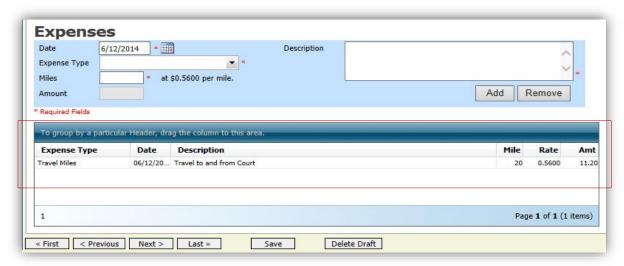
Attorneys will continue to bill "In-House" Paralegals as "Other Expenses" on the Panel Attorney's voucher. A summary of services for each Paralegal is required in notes or as an attachment.

### **Entering Expenses (cont'd)**





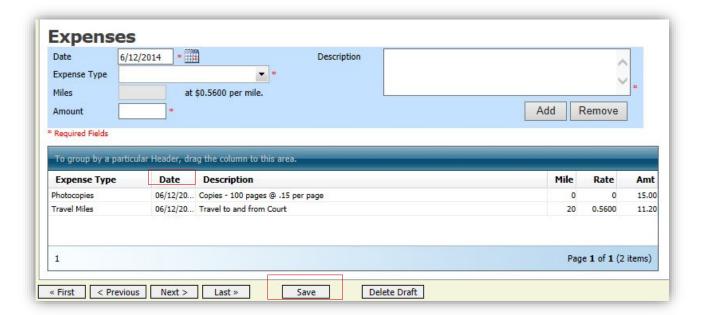
The entry will be added to the voucher and will appear at the bottom of the Expense Type section.



# **Entering Expenses (cont'd)**

#### **Notes:**

- If Photocopies or fax expenses are chosen, indicate the number of pages, and the rate charged per page.
- Remember to click ADD after each entry.
- · Double click an entry to edit.



Step 5

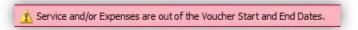
Click the **Date** header. This will sort expenses according to date.



Click SAVE.

### **Claim Status**

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



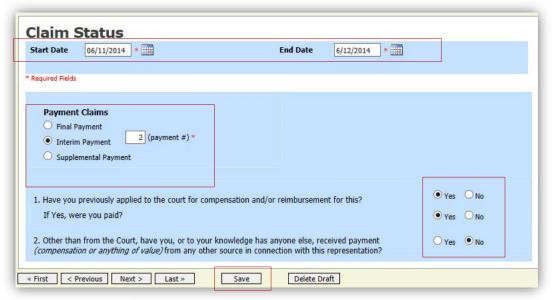
The message will be removed when you complete the **Claim Status** section with start and end dates which include all service and expenses dates for the voucher. The District of New Jersey recommends starting with the **Claim Status** section when creating any voucher.



Click the Claim Statustab or click the Next option located on the Progress bar.



Enter the start date from the services or expenses entries, whichever date is earliest. If need be, go back to the **Expense** and **Service** sections, and click the **Date** header to sort showing the earliest date of services.



Step 3

Indicate payment type.

#### Note:

- Final Payment is requested after all services have been completed.
- Interim Payment allows for payment in segments by Order of the Court. If using this type of payment, indicate the number of this request payment. It is the attorney's responsibility to keep track of the number of requested payments.
- After Final Payment number has been submitted, Supplemental Payment may be requested due to a missed or forgotten receipt.

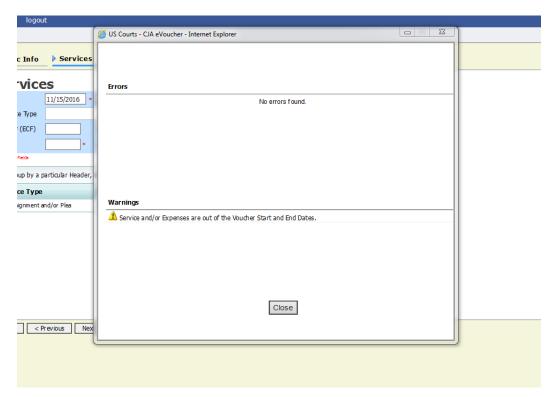
Step 4

Answer all the questions regarding previous payments in this case.

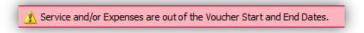
Step 5

Click SAVE.

At any point while creating services or expense, click **Audit Assist** to view any errors or warnings regarding your document.



If you try to submit with errors, you may receive the following pink error message:



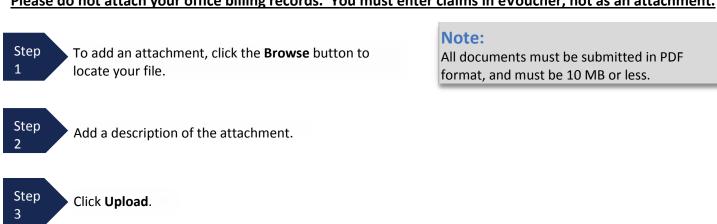
The message will be removed when you complete the **Claim Status** section with correct start and end dates that include all service and expenses dates for the voucher.

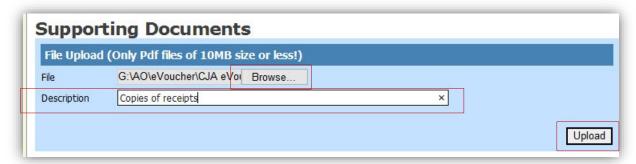
### **Documents**

Step

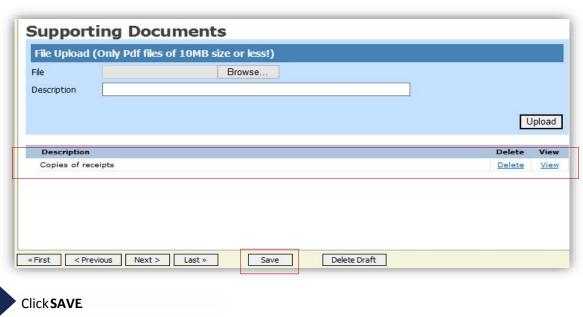
Attorneys (as well as the Court) may attach documents. Attach any documentation which supports the voucher, i.e. excess compensation memo, travel or other expense receipts, orders from the Court.

#### Please do not attach your office billing records. You must enter claims in eVoucher, not as an attachment.





The attachment and description is added to the voucher and appears in the bottom of the Description section.



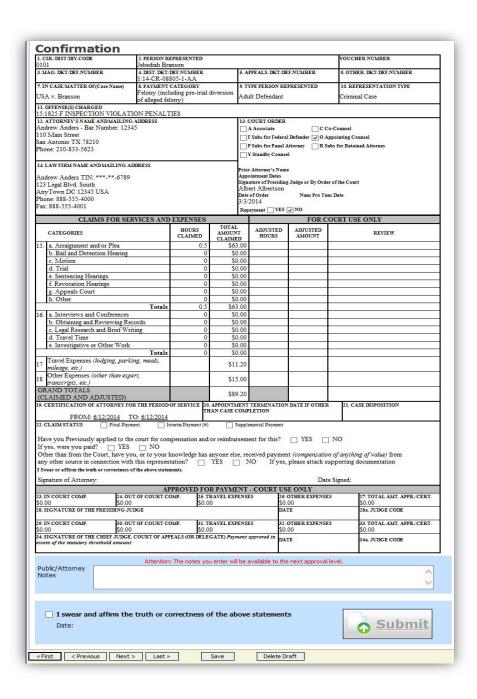
# **Signing and Submitting to Court**

When you have added all voucher entries, you are ready to sign, and submit your voucher to the Court.

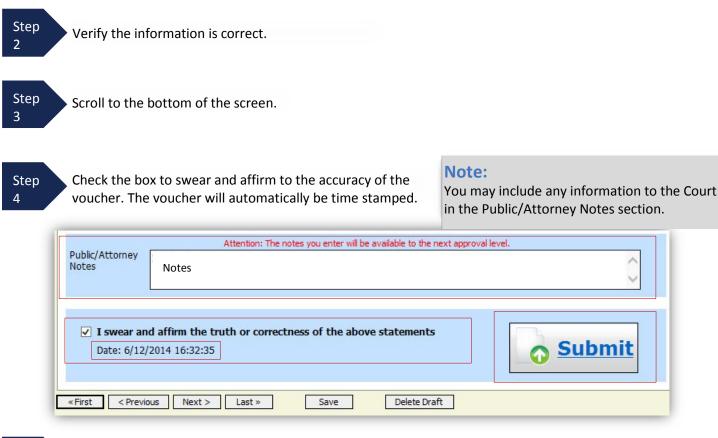


Click Confirmation tab or the Last option located on the Progress bar.

The Confirmation screen appears which reflects all entries from the previous screens.

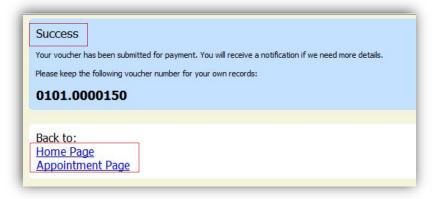


### Signing and Submitting to Court (cont'd)



Step 5 Click **Submit** to send to the Court.

A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful and the voucher has been submitted for payment.

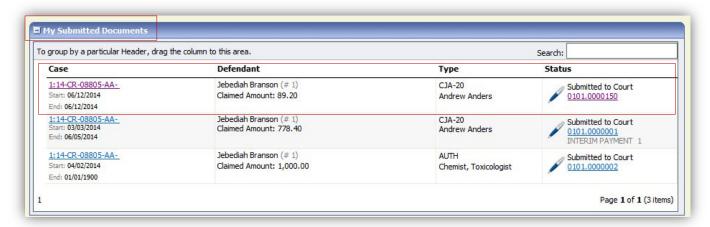


Step 6

Click **Home Page** to return to the home page. Click **Appointment Page** if you wish to create additional document for this appointment.

### Signing and Submitting to Court (cont'd)

The active voucher is removed from the "My Active Documents" folder and now appears in the "My Submitted Documents" section.



#### **Notes:**

• If a voucher is rejected by the Court, it will reappear in the "My Documents" section and will be highlighted in gold.



An email message generated by the system will be sent explaining why the voucher was rejected. The
reason for rejection can also be found on the Confirmation page of the voucher under
Public/Attorney Notes.

# **CJA 20 Quick Review Panel**

When entering time and expenses in a CJA 20 voucher, the attorney may monitor the voucher totals using the quick review panel on the left side of the screen.

• The Services and Expenses will tally as entries are entered into the voucher.



 Expand the item by clicking on the down arrow to reveal specifics.



# **Reports and Case Management**

At the start of a case, it may be difficult for counsel or the court to know whether a case has the potential to exceed the statutory maximum allowed for representation. Therefore, attorneys are encouraged to monitor the status of funds, attorney hours as well as expert services, by reviewing the reports provided in the CJA eVoucher program. Items to remember:

- Viewable reports appear on the left review panel.
- Each panel, depending upon which document you are viewing, can have different reports available.
- Each report can have a short description of the information received when viewing that report.
- The two main reports are the Defendant Detail Budget Report and the Defendant Summary Budget Report.



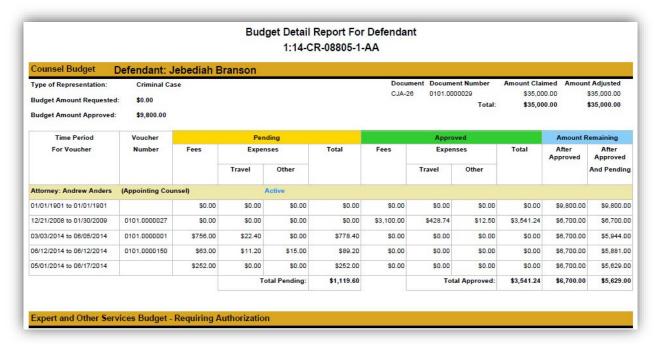
Other accessible reports can be found on the Menu bar.



### **Defendant Detailed Budget Report**

This report will reflect the total amount authorized for this representation, any excess payment allowed, the vouchers submitted against those authorizations, and the remaining balances.

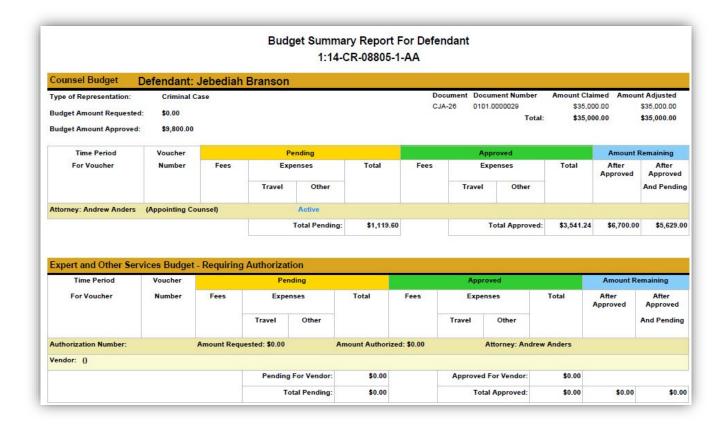
The report will provide the information in two sections: Attorney appointment and authorized expert service.





### **Defendant Summary Report**

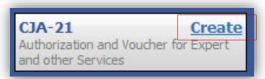
This report contains the same information as the Detailed Report without the individual voucher data.



# **Creating a CJA 21 Voucher**



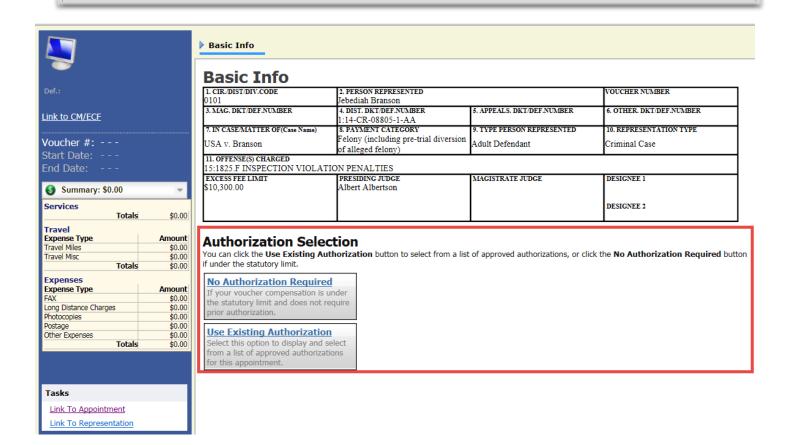
From the **Appointment** page, click **Create** from the CJA-21 Voucher template.



The voucher opens the **Basic Info** page.

#### Note:

There is **NOT AN AUTOSAVE** function on this program. You must click **Save** periodically to save your work.



When submitting a CJA-21 Voucher, you have two options from which to choose under the **Authorization Selection** section.



If the request does not require advance authorization (\$800 or less), click **No Authorization Required.** 

If you have a previously approved authorization, click **Use Existing Authorization**.

### No Authorization Required

If your voucher compensation is under the statutory limit and does not require prior authorization.

#### Use Existing Authorization

Select this option to display and select from a list of approved authorizations for this appointment.

If you click Use Existing Authorization, an Associated Authorization list appears.

Step 3 Select the authorization you wish to use. It will turn beige when selected. **You cannot continue until it is highlighted.** 

Step 4 The service type automatically fills in based on the authorization selected. If no authorization is being used, click the **Service Type** drop-down arrow and select the service type.

Step 5

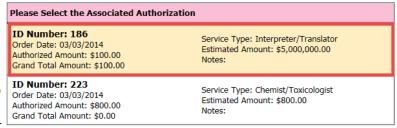
Enter a description of the service to be provided in the **Description** field.

Step

From the **Expert** drop-down list, select the expert.

If the expert you select is not authorized to use eVoucher, the **Voucher Assignment** buttons remain locked, indicating the attorney will be responsible for filling the voucher claim part.

If the expert selected is authorized to enter expenses on their own voucher, the **Voucher Assignment** buttons unlock, indicating the expert can be selected and can then fill in their own services and expenses on the voucher.







#### Note:

Only experts registered with the service type selected appear in the drop-down list. If you wish to submit a person for approval, steps on how to add an expert are outlined in the next section.

Step 7 Click Create Voucher.

#### **Notes:**

- If all information is not entered you cannot advance to the next screen.
- In the District of New Jersey, you will file the voucher on behalf of the expert. The voucher will appear in the "My Active Documents" section as submitted to attorney. You will perform the second level of approval/submission by clicking on the voucher, navigating to the "Confirmation" page and approving the voucher. The voucher will then move to the "My Submitted Documents" section. Outlined steps are on page 41.
- REMINDER: FILING A VOUCHER ON BEHALF OF AN EXPERT OR SERVICE PROVIDER IS A 2-STEP PROCESS.

If you wish to submit a person as an **Expert**, follow steps 3 through 5 on page 35.



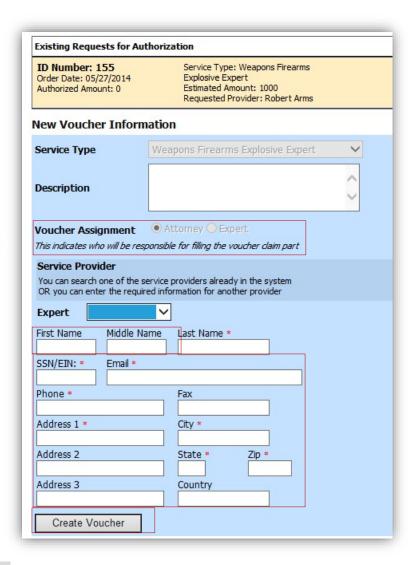
From the **Expert** drop-down list, select the empty (null) value. Voucher Assignment should be on the Attorney option.



Fill in all required information on the person you wish to submit for approval.



Click Create Voucher.



#### Note:

- The person you submitted will go through an approval process. Once that person has been approved, an email will be sent to you.
- You'll now be able to select the person from the **Expert** drop-down list and all their information will automatically populate.

After **Create Voucher** has been selected, you'll proceed with similar steps mentioned on the CJA 20 Voucher adding Services, Expenses, Claim Status, and Documents.

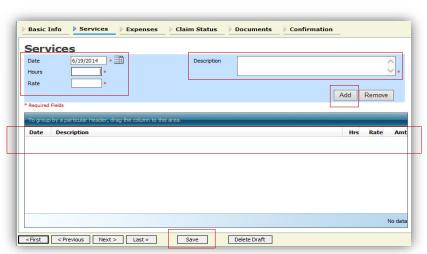
#### Note:

- When entering Services and Expenses for the expert. attornevs are required to enter line by line descriptions based on the service dates.
- Since you will be submitting the voucher for the expert, you'll need to approve the voucher twice, once while sending it for the expert, and a second time after it appears in the "My Active Documents" section.



The item will appear in the bottom of the Services list section.

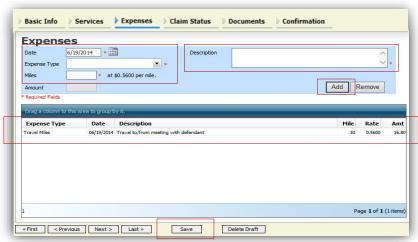






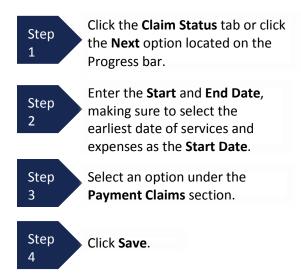
The item will appear in the bottom of the Expense Type section.

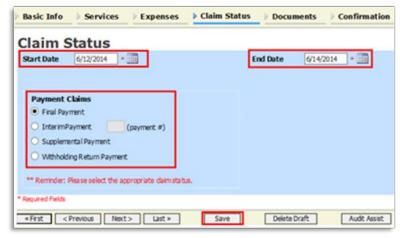




#### Note:

At any point, click **Audit Assist** and the system will search for any warnings or errors.



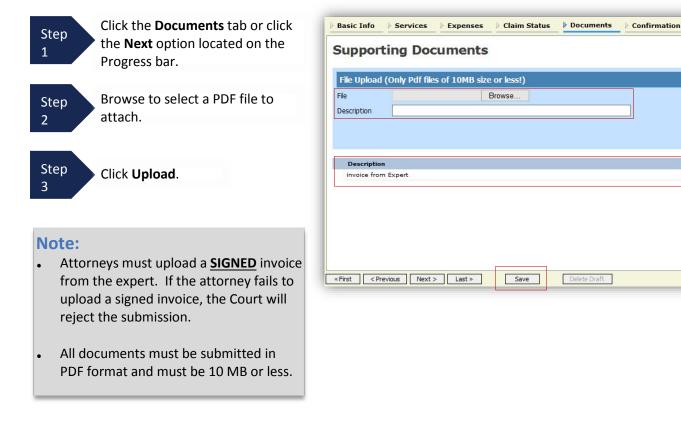


#### Note:

- Final Payment is requested after all services have been completed.
- Interim Payment allows for payment in segments. If using this type of payment indicate the number of this request payment.

Upload

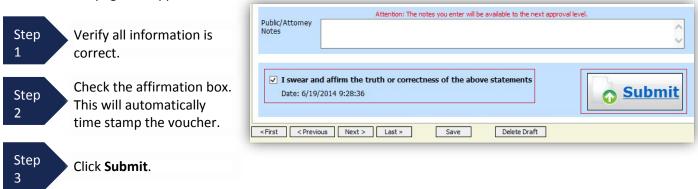
## Creating a CJA 21 Voucher (cont'd)



The document will appear in the bottom of the Description section.



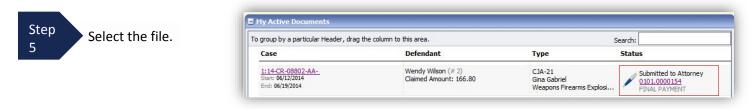
A confirmation page will appear.



A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful and the voucher has been submitted.



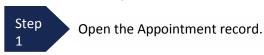
The voucher will appear in the "My Active Documents" section.



Navigate to the Confirmation tab.

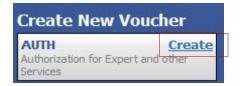


# Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services, Associates, and Partners





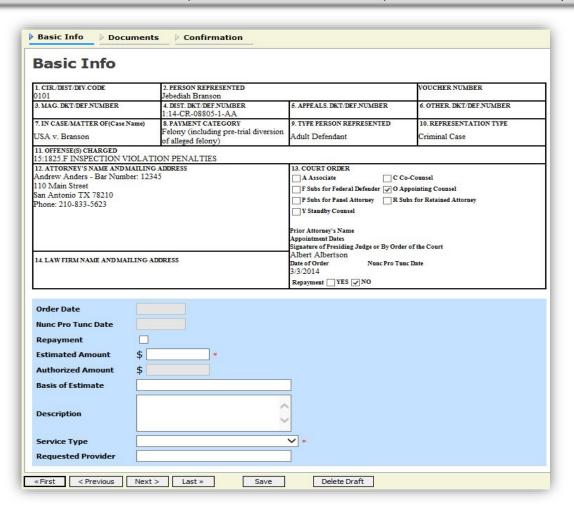
Click **Create** from the Authorization template.



The **Basic Info** screen will open.

#### Note:

Attorneys are required to use the "AUTH" feature to submit requests for use of Associates and
Partners. Please refer to Addendum #1 for more information on Associate use. Attorneys can also
use the "AUTH" feature to request to exceed the District's hourly rate benchmarks, if necessary.



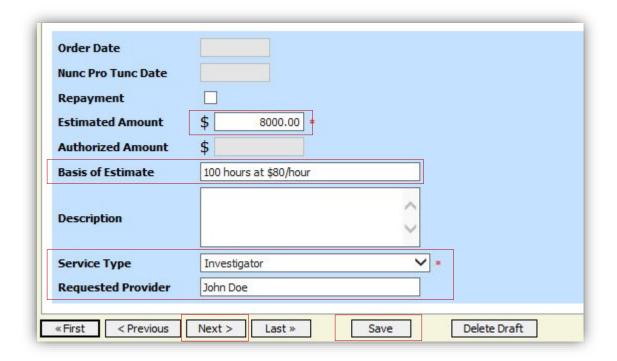
# Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services, Associates, and Partners (cont'd)

Step 3

Complete the information in the blue section at the bottom of the screen. This to include:

- Estimated Amount
- Basis for Estimate
- Service Type from drop-down
- Name of Service Provider

**NOTE:** When requesting Authorization for an Associate or Partner, use "Other" as Service Type.



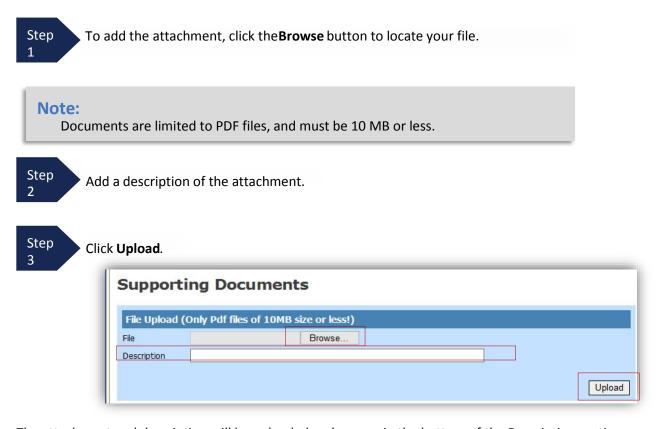


Click Save.

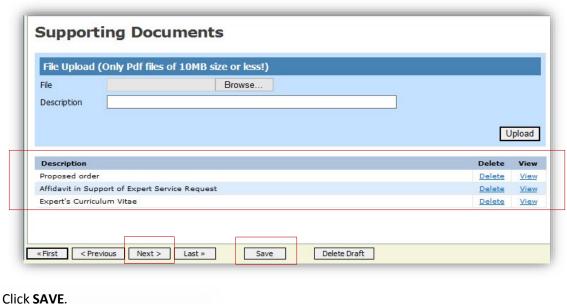


Click the **Supporting Documents** tab or click the **Next** option located on the Progress bar.

# Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services, Associates, and Partners (cont'd)



The attachment and description will be uploaded and appear in the bottom of the Description section.



Step

# Submitting an Authorization Request for Expert Services, Associates, and Partners (cont'd)



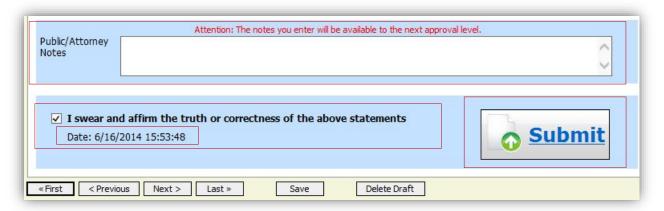
The Confirmation screen will open.



Check the box to swear and affirm to the accuracy of the voucher. The voucher will automatically be time stamped.

#### Note:

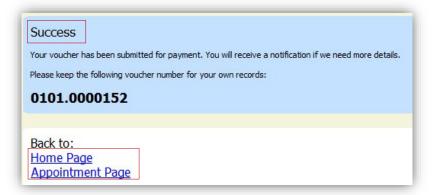
You may include any notes to the Court in the Public/Attorney Notes section.





Click **Submit** to send to the Court.

A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful and the Authorization Request has been submitted.





Click **Home Page** to return to the home page. Click **Appointment Page** if you wish to create additional document for this appointment.

The Authorization Request will now appear in the "My Submitted Documents" section on the Attorney home page.

## **Creating an Authorizations for Transcripts (AUTH 24)**



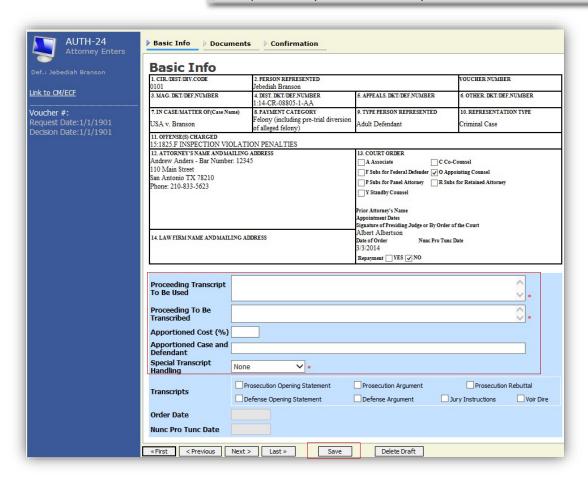
From the Appointment page click **Create** Auth 24. The Authorization opens to the Basic **Info** page.



#### Basic Info page.

#### Note:

There is **NOT AN AUTOSAVE** function on this program. You must click **SAVE** periodically in order to save your work.



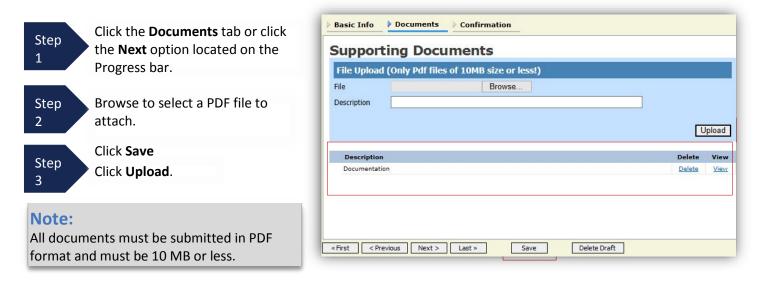
Step 2

Enter the details for the transcript required on the **Basic Info** screen.



Click Save.

### Creating an Authorization for Auth 24 Transcripts (cont'd)



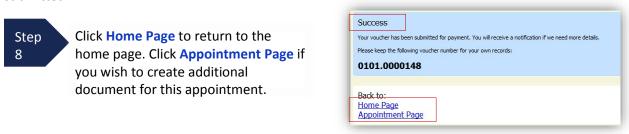
The Document will appear in the bottom of the Description section.



A confirmation page will appear.



A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful and the Authorization Request has been submitted.



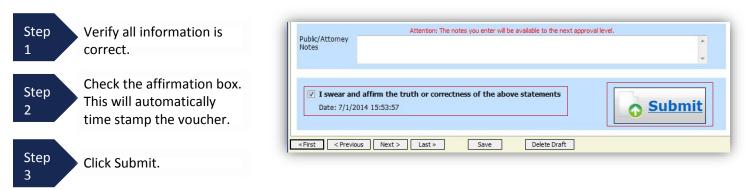
The Auth 24 will now appear in the "My Submitted Documents" section on the Attorney home page. You will receive an e-mail from the Court once the authorization request has been approved. <u>At that time</u>, you will contact the Court Reporter or Transcription Agency to make arrangements for the transcript.

### **CJA 24 Voucher**

After a transcript request has been fulfilled, the attorney will receive a voucher from the Court Reporter or Transcription Agency via eVoucher for approval and submission to the Court.

The voucher will appear in the "My Active Documents" section.

A confirmation page will appear.



A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful, and the voucher has been submitted.



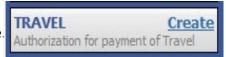
Click **Home Page** to return to the page. Click **Appointment Page** if you wish to create additional document For this appointment.



## **Creating a Travel Voucher (See Addendum #2)**

Step 1

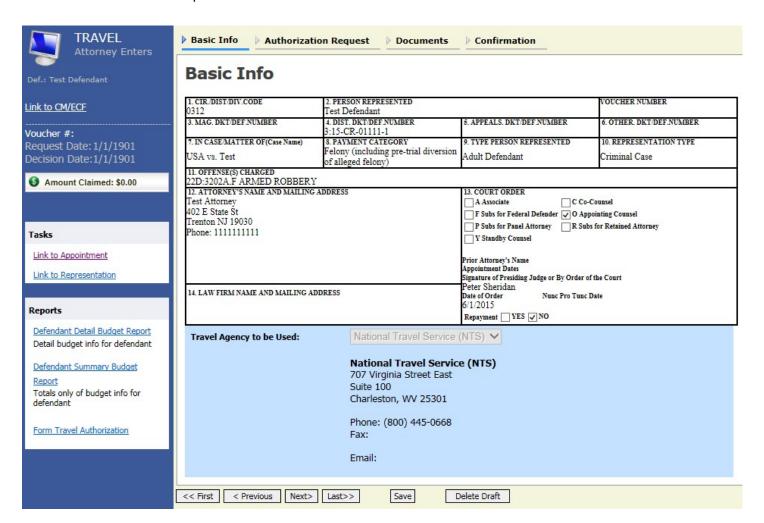
From the **Appointment** page click **Create** from the Travel Voucher Template.



#### Note:

There is **NOT AN AUTOSAVE** function on this program. You must click **SAVE** periodically in order to save your work.

The Basic Info screen will open.

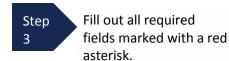


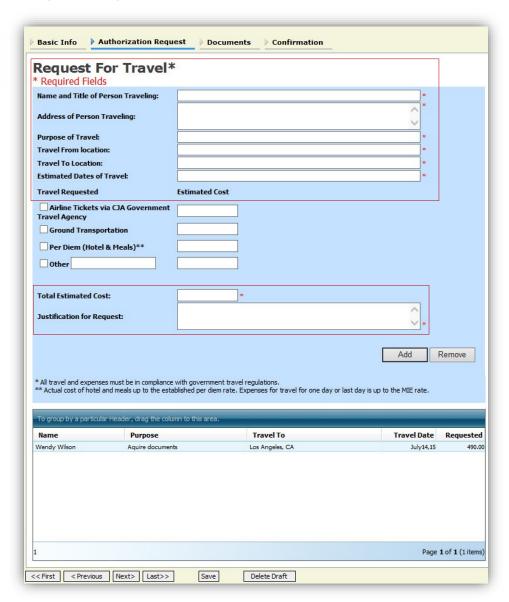
The "Travel Agency to be Used" section will automatically populate.



Click the **Authorization Request** tab or click the **Next** option located on the Progress bar.

# **Creating a Travel Voucher (cont'd)**



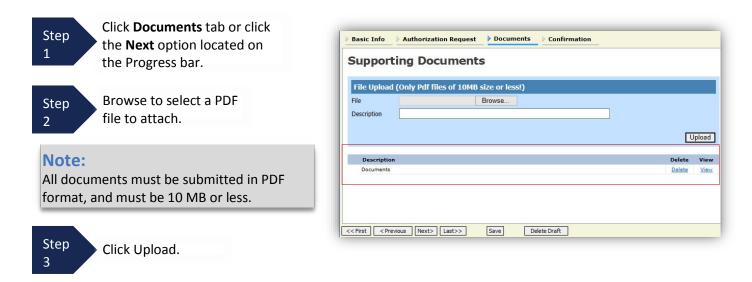




The information will appear in the bottom section.



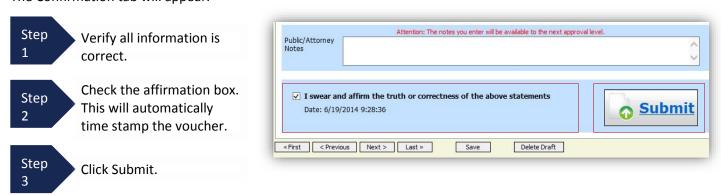
### **Creating a Travel Voucher (cont'd)**



The document will appear in the bottom of the Description section.



The Confirmation tab will appear.



A confirmation screen will appear indicating the previous action was successful and the voucher has been submitted.



The Travel Voucher will now appear in the "My Submitted Documents" section.

# **ADDENDUM #1**

# INSTRUCTIONS TO REQUEST CJA AUTHORIZATION TO USE ASSOCIATE IN YOUR FIRM

NOTE: All Associate use will require the creation of an Associate Account.

# AUTHORIZATION TO UTILIZE AN ASSOCIATE IN YOUR FIRM IN EXCESS OF TEN (10) HOURS (See Guideline section 1.1 attached)

- Create an Auth. in eVoucher to use an Associate (pursuant to the Circuit Guidelines effective 1/1/16-previously provided and currently on our public website and attached).
- Provide in the description box in the Auth. and/or attach a supporting document under documents tab in eVoucher, the specifics of your request.
- Submit to Court via eVoucher.
- Upon the Court granting authorization for an Associate, an Associate Account needs to be created. Information will be sent to appointed counsel on requirements.

#### CREATION OF ASSOCIATE ACCOUNT IN EVOUCHER FOR ALL ASSOCIATE WORK

- Contact the eVoucher help desk for information and requirements to have an Associate Account created.
- Once the Associate Account is created, the appointment is added to that particular case in eVoucher.
- The Associate user account can be used for any case in which you have received authorization to use an Associate in your firm.
- Associate creates a voucher and bills their time using this account in eVoucher.
- Associate needs to have appointed counsel approve the voucher being submitted. To do this, Counsel must print and sign a copy of the Associate voucher and upload same as a pdf document.
- •See attached Circuit Guidelines effective 1/1/16 and the Attorney's Manual on our Public Website at <a href="https://www.njd.uscourts.gov">www.njd.uscourts.gov</a>.
- If an Associate Account has already been established, contact the help desk so that the Associate Account can be attached to the specific case that you are utilizing an Associate: eVoucher help desk: 973-645-4582.
- \*Please contact the Clerk's Office if you obtain an authorization to use an Associate who **is not** a member of your Firm.

#### UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

# GUIDELINES FOR CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT IN ALL DISTRICT COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS REPRESENTATIONS

#### 1. Payment for Legal Services

#### 1.1 Pre-Approval for Non-Appointed Co-Counsel in Non-Capital Cases

Appointed counsel may not claim compensation for services furnished by an associate, partner, or co-counsel, unless specifically authorized or separately appointed in accordance with Guide to Judiciary Policy, Vol. 7A, § 230.53.20(b), except if co-counsel is a partner or associate of appointed counsel, no prior authorization is required to receive compensation for up to ten hours of work by the partner or associate. If appointed counsel anticipates requesting compensation for more than ten hours of work by a partner or associate, appointed counsel should promptly request authorization. If co-counsel is not a partner or associate of appointed counsel, prior authorization is required to receive compensation for any work by co-counsel.

#### 1.2 Presumptive Hourly Rate for Non-Appointed Co-Counsel in Non- Capital Cases

The hourly rate for non-appointed co-counsel who are not members of the CJA Panel shall not exceed 80% of the hourly rate for CJA Panel Attorneys, except when the presiding judge determines that there are special circumstances justifying a higher hourly rate, such as when co-counsel possesses specialized knowledge or skills relevant to the case.

#### 1.3 Compensation of CJA Panel Attorneys

Attorneys who are members of the CJA Panel shall be paid the full CJA hourly rate in all representations, regardless of whether they are appointed as counsel or serve as non-appointed co-counsel.

# **ADDENDUM #2**

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

# GOVERNMENT TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR CJA-COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEYS, INVESTIGATORS OR EXPERTS

#### **GOVERNMENT TRAVEL:**

A Government Travel Account (GTA) has been established for use by CJA Court-Appointed Attorneys, Experts, and Investigators. This GTA account allows authorized CJA Attorneys and Experts to (1) obtain discounted government travel rates on official CJA business trips, and (2) charge authorized tickets to a government credit card; such charges then are paid directly by the Court rather than by the authorized traveler. Travel related to CJA representation must be arranged by adhering to the following procedures:

- a. Travel must be authorized via eVoucher (signed by the presiding judicial officer) for the CJA Court Appointed Attorney(s), Investigator(s), Expert(s), etc. The attorney should initiate a Travel Authorization for each traveler separately.
- b. The Attorney or Expert may contact National Travel Service at 1-800-445-0668, to get an estimate as to the cost of the travel. The traveler should inform National Travel that they are traveling as a CJA Court-Appointed Attorney or a CJA Court-Appointed Expert, and provided them with the following:
  - 1. Defendant's Name:
  - 2. District Court Information:
  - 3. Travel Authorization Information.
- c. After obtaining a Travel Authorization approved by the presiding judge, the attorney or expert may then call National Travel Service, and request tickets based on the estimate or itinerary previously requested. Because the Travel Authorization is an official government document, it should enable the traveler to obtain official government rates at hotels as well. National Travel is a full-service travel agency and can provide assistance with hotel reservations, ground transportation, etc., for the area you are traveling to.

#### **LODGING & MEALS:**

Traveling as a CJA Court-Appointed Attorney or Expert, there is an emphasis on the prudent traveler rules, specifically, it is suggested that CJA Court Appointed travelers use the GSA per diem rate for the area you will be staying, as a guide, (which you can retrieve from our public website at <a href="https://www.njd.uscourts.gov/criminal">www.njd.uscourts.gov/criminal</a> justice act), so as to avoid excessive claims for meals or hotels.

#### **EXPENSE DOCUMENTATION:**

Receipts are required for all expenses claimed; e.g., ground transportation, meals, etc. Receipts must be detailed from the restaurant or establishment, not just your charge slip. It must have detailed information such as the name of the restaurant, what was ordered, date and amount.

#### **REIMBURSEMENT:**

When submitting your claims in eVoucher for reimbursement for the travel, please attach a copy of the travel authorization approved by presiding judge, or court order. Also attach all receipts for expenses related to the travel; (e.g., hotel, car rental, meals, etc.). Only the airline tickets will be paid using the GTA Account directly. All other claims will be reimbursed through your eVoucher CJA 20 or CJA 30, under Expenses. If you are an expert, you will be reimbursed through your CJA 21 or CJA 31.

If you have any questions on specific guidelines or procedures for travel as a CJA Court-Appointed Attorney or Expert, please contact Anna Irwin, CJA Specialist at (609) 989-2398 or Bill Holland, Director of Court Services at (609) 989-2328 for further assistance.

12/2016