

Practice Standards

December, 2012

Section III, The Attorney-Client Relationship

5. Conflict Cases:

A. When a case is determined to be a conflict of interest, the Regional Deputy Public Defender shall refer the case to the Conflict Coordinator. If the Conflict Coordinator determines that the case is indeed a conflict, the Conflict Coordinator shall assign the case to a private attorney whose name is maintained on the contract attorney list, assign the case to an FTE within another region, or assign the case to the Major Crimes Unit.

B. Once the Conflict Coordinator assigns a conflict case, the Regional Deputy Public Defender and all staff including investigators within that office shall have no involvement in the case whatsoever.

C. The conflict attorney shall submit bills for the payment of attorney time to the Conflict Coordinator.

D. Costs, other than attorney fees, expected to be incurred by a conflict attorney which exceed \$200, will be pre-approved by the Conflict Coordinator.

E. The Chief Public Defender, Contracts Manager, Training Coordinator, and Conflict Coordinator will confer with each other about the availability of experts or other options relating to costs in cases without reference to the specifics of any case.