

#### **U.S. Department of Justice**

### **United States Trustee Program**

## Instructions for Completing the Chapter 11 Fee Appendix B Guideline Forms, Exhibits A through E, Portable Document Format (PDF) Fillable Forms

Version 1.0

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#### 1 Introduction

# The Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases

The United States Trustee Program ("USTP") has issued new guidelines for attorney compensation in larger chapter 11 cases. These new Guidelines – formally titled "Appendix B—Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 for Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases" – are effective for cases filed on or after November 1, 2013.

For purposes of these Guidelines, a larger chapter 11 case is defined as a chapter 11 case with \$50 million or more in assets and \$50 million or more in liabilities, aggregated for jointly administered cases and excluding single asset real estate cases as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B).

These new Guidelines are a statement of the USTP's policy governing its review of attorney fee applications in larger chapter 11 cases. They communicate to professionals and the general public the criteria used by United States Trustees in the review of fee applications, the USTP's expectations of professionals, and possible bases for USTP objections to the payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses. These Guidelines do not supersede local rules, court orders, or other controlling authority.

The USTP will encourage bankruptcy courts to incorporate the Appendix B Guidelines in their local rules of bankruptcy procedure, as many courts have done with the guidelines that were issued in 1996. USTP attorneys in districts throughout the country will enforce the Guidelines and defend them in bankruptcy courts and through appeals as appropriate.

### **2 Technical Requirements**

#### 2.1 Background

To assist in implementation of the Chapter 11 Fee Appendix B Guidelines, the USTP has developed Portable Document Format (PDF) fillable forms for Exhibits A through E. These forms may be downloaded, completed, and submitted with the attorney's "Application for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses." These forms are available through the U.S. Trustee Program Web site.

#### 2.2 Technical Requirements

The following are the system requirements for completing the Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms:

Internet Explorer Version 8.0 or higher Adobe Reader Version 9.0 or higher Adobe Acrobat X Pro or higher

#### 2.3 Field Types in Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms

Each of the Chapter 11 forms contains fillable fields. Depending on your Adobe settings, these fields may appear highlighted. Below are the different types of fields:

Field Type	Formatting Standard		
Text	Free text; up to available limit of field. Certain fields will allow multiple lines of text.		
Pick List	Contains several options within a drop-down list.		
Numeric	Non-negative whole numbers up to available limit of field		
Numeric (currency)	Some dollar amounts allow more than 10 digits, plus two decimal places.		
Date	Dates formatted as MM/DD/YYYY. Date fields also have an associated Calendar tool, accessible by clicking the downward arrow that appears in the active field.		

# 2.4 Navigation within Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms and the Validation of Date Fields

Users may click directly in a field to begin entering data; or, users may press <TAB> on their keyboards to move forward through the fields or <SHIFT> + <TAB> to move backwards. The tab order is set as top-down, then, left-right on the page. Date Fields:

Some fields are validated for format, such as date fields that require the MM/DD/YYYY format. Adobe will warn you if you do not enter the data correctly in these fields. However, you will be able to continue to the next field, and to save the files with these warnings.

# **Completing the Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms**

## 3.1 Retrieving the Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms from the U.S. Trustee Program Web site

#### **Location of Forms:**

- 1. From the Rules, Guidelines, and Federal Register Notices page of the U.S. Trustee Program Web site at: <a href="http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/rules-regulations/guidelines/index.htm">http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/rules-regulations/guidelines/index.htm</a>, select the Exhibit you wish to access.
- 2. Click on the link under the "Format" heading to access the PDF/F file that you wish to download. The file will open in another Internet browser window.

Appendix B Guidelines Fillable Forms:					
To assist in implementation of the Appendix B Guidelines, the USTP has developed Portable Document Format (PDF) fillable forms for Exhibits A through E. These forms may be downloaded, completed, and submitted with the attorney's "Application for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses."					
Effective Date	Subject	Format			
	Instructions for Appendix B Guidelines Forms	[PDF - 92 KB]			
November 1, 2013	Exhibit A - Customary and Comparable Compensation Disclosures With Fee Applications	[PDF/F - 1.68 MB]			
November 1, 2013	Exhibit B – Summary of Timekeepers Included in this Fee Application	[PDF/F - 1.27 MB]			
November 1, 2013	Exhibit C – Budget and Staffing Plan	[PDF/F - 2.64 MB]			
November 1, 2013	Exhibit D – Summary of Compensation Requested by Project Category	[PDF/F - 2.65 MB]			
November 1, 2013	Exhibit E - Summary Cover Sheet of Fee Application	[PDF/F - 978 KB]			

Figure 1. List of Appendix B Fillable Forms on USTP Web site.

3. Once the file is open, select **File** > **Save As**. Name the file and save it to a location on your PC where you will be able to easily locate the file.

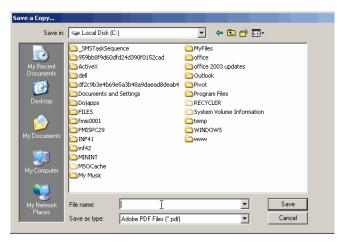


Figure 2. Save a Copy Window

4. Locate and Click on the file to Open it. Adobe will launch.

## 3.2 Entering Data Into the Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms Fields Types

1. Begin entering data into the fields.

Some sections of the fillable form allow for multiple entries (e.g., multiple Timekeepers). The time keeper categories may be modified to match the categories used within your organization. These sections have an **Add** button beneath the row and a **Delete** button to the left of each row. Click **Add** to insert another row just below the previous row; click **Delete** to remove the row to the right of the **Delete** button (one row will always remain). Save the file at regular intervals to ensure that you do not lose your work.

CATEGORY OF TIMEKEEPER		BLENDED HOURLY RATE	
(using categories already maintained by the firm)		BILLED OR COLLECTED	BILLED
		Firm or offices for preceding year, excluding bankruptcy	In this fee application
Delete	Sr./Equity Partner/Shareholder		
Delete	Jr./Equity Partner/Shareholder		
Delete	Counsel		
Delete	Sr. Associate (7 or more years since first admission)		
Delete	Associate (4-6 years since first admission)		
Delete	Jr. Associate (1-3 years since first admission)		
Delete	Staff Attorney		
Delete	Contract Attorney		
Delete	Paralegal		
Delete	Other (please define)		
Add	Click Add button to add additional timekeeper category		
	All timekeepers aggregated		

Figure 3. Add and Delete Buttons for Sections that Allow Multiple Rows

2. Other field types within the fillable form include the Pick List, pictured in Figure 5, and the Date Tool, pictured in Figure 6. You can simply select from the options displayed.

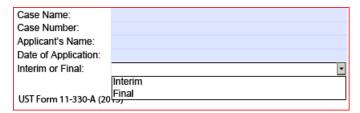


Figure 5. Pick List showing options for Interim or Final



Figure 6. Date Tool showing calendar

- 3. Once you have entered all the data in the form, save the file again to a location on your PC where you will be able to easily locate the file.
  - 3.3 Filing the Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Fillable Forms with the Courts

Consult your local court for policies and requirements when filing the completed Chapter 11 Fee Guidelines Forms.

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