

# Court Appearance Contractual Agreement

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Clients are discouraged from having their therapist subpoenaed or having him provide records for the purpose of litigation. Even though you are responsible for the testimony fee, it does not mean that my testimony will be solely in your favor. I can only testify to the facts of the case and to my professional opinion. Furthermore, if I see both a husband and wife separately, there is an obvious conflict of interest. I would rather not damage the trust I have built in the counseling relationship with each client especially if I am still seeing that person for therapy.

If the therapist, Jason B. Fischer, MA, LPC is to receive a subpoena, then the attorney or office staff is required to call his office and set up a time for the subpoena to be served during office hours. A minimum of 72 hours notice of any court appearance is necessary so that schedule changes for clients can be made within a reasonable time frame. Please note: If a subpoena or notice to meet attorney(s) is received without a minimum of 72 hour notice there will be an additional \$250 express charge.

The fee structure for court appearances is as follows:

1. Preparation Time (including records submission): \$220/hr (billable in 15-minute increments)
2. Phone calls: \$220/hr (billable in 15-minute increments)
3. Depositions: \$250/hour
4. Time spent on Court premises (with or without testifying): \$250/hour
5. Compensation for travel to and from court: \$125/hour or portion thereof
6. All attorney fees and costs that are incurred by the therapist as a result of the legal action
7. Filing document with the court: \$100
8. The minimum charge for a court appearance: \$1000

A retainer of \$1500 is due at least 72 business hours before the scheduled court appearance. The remainder of the costs will be billed after the court appearance and will be due upon receipt. If the therapist is subpoenaed and the case is reset with less than 72 business hours notice prior to the beginning of the day of the scheduled subpoena, trial, then the client will be charged \$500 (in addition to original retainer of \$1500 for having to appear in court). Bills are presented to clients on a weekly basis and payment is expected upon receipt. Any refund from the retainer owed to the client will be remitted by mail to the client's address of record no less than 30 days after completion of the court appearance.

***My signature below signifies that I have read, understood, and agree to abide by all terms outlined in this contract, as well as providing my consent for Jason B. Fischer, MA, LPC to testify verbally and/or in writing to counseling services received in specific conjunction with said court appearance.***

Client Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Client Driver's License Number or Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Client Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Therapist Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_