

**Proposed Testimony of CJA panel attorney Phillip G. Sapien  
for Public Hearing to Review CJA Program  
November 16-17, 2015 Santa Fe, New Mexico**

I. General Background Information:

- Testimony/information will be provided regarding my practice and participation in the CJA program, the percentage of CJA cases my office handles annually and for how long I have been on the panel.
- Attorney Sapien will provide information regarding his training and experience on the CJA panel.

II. CJA Panel Management:

- Testimony/information will be provided regarding the size of the panel in New Mexico as well how the panel has been managed regarding the selection of attorneys and appointment of cases.
- Testimony/information will be provided regarding the diversity of the CJA panel in NM.
- Testimony/Information will also be given on the important role the FPDO has in panel management and the invaluable communications and interactions between the FPDO and the NM panel.
- Attorney Sapien will also be prepared to discuss the necessity of maintaining judicial independence to the extent possible in the management and use of panel attorneys.

### III. CJA Compensation

- Testimony/personal insight will be provided as requested about the adequacy of compensation, training that has been provided regarding voucher completion, frequency of voucher reductions etc. from the personal standpoint of attorney panel attorney Sapien.
- Attorney Sapien will also provide insight as to his CJA billing practices, ability to secure and use of experts in cases, the use of budgets in complex cases.

### IV. Miscellaneous

- Testimony/personal insight will be offered regarding the need to continue the training programs offered to panel attorneys on a wide variety of topics related to CJA representation.
- Testimony/personal insight will be presented on the outstanding working relationship that exists between the FPDO and the panel members in terms of training, legal strategies and appellate updates provided and the importance of ensuring that this relationship continues to exist and thrive going forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my experience and personal opinions for this very important review. Please contact me in advance if additional information is needed prior to the upcoming public hearing.

Sincerely,

Phillip G. Sapien

Panel attorney (D-NM)