

Stephanie Zepeda, PhD, LMFT, PLLC
Court Appearance & Legal Fees

Clients are discouraged from having their therapist subpoenaed. 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 not as an expert because of my existing relationship with you as your therapist. Should I be subpoenaed by the court, the legal fees for this time are listed below:

1. Preparation time (including submission of records): \$250/hr
2. Phone calls: \$250/hour
3. Depositions: \$250/hour
4. Time required in giving testimony: \$250/hour
5. Mileage: \$0.40/mile
6. Time away from office due to depositions or testimony: \$250/hour
7. All attorney fees and costs incurred by the therapist as a result of the legal action.
8. Filing a document with the court: \$100
9. The minimum charge for a court appearance: \$1500

A retainer of \$1500 is due in advance. If a subpoena or notice to meet attorney(s) is received without a minimum of 48-hour notice, there will be an additional \$250 “express” charge. Also, if the case is reset with less than 72 business hours’ notice, then the client will be charged \$500 (in addition to the retainer of \$1500).

Finally, all fees are doubled if Stephanie Zepeda, PhD, LMFT-S had scheduled plans to go out of town.