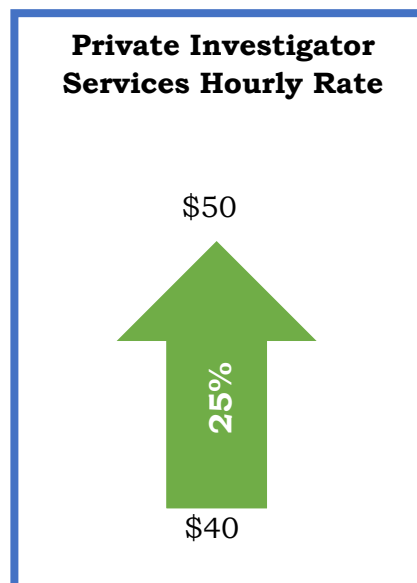
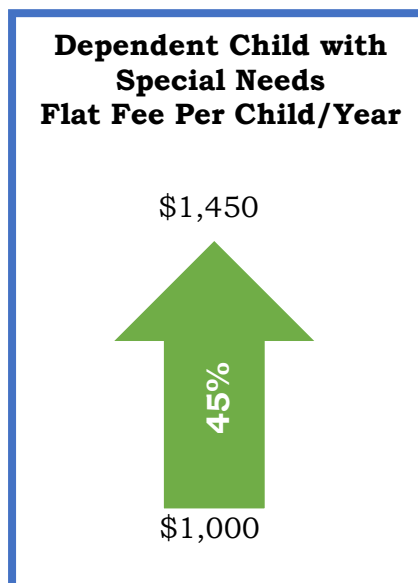
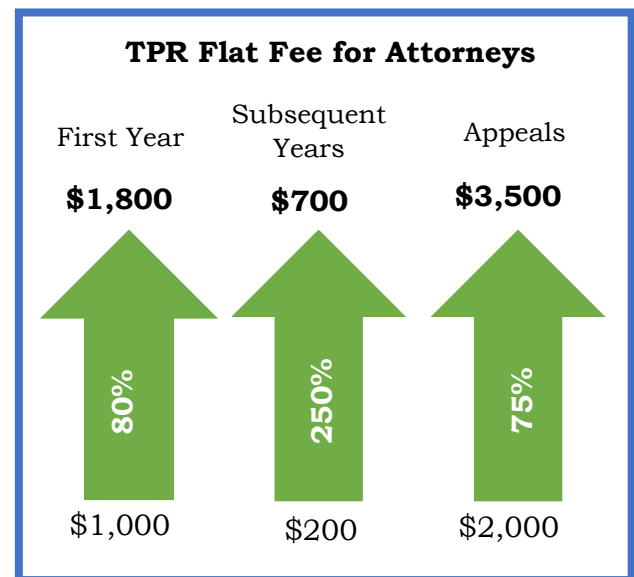
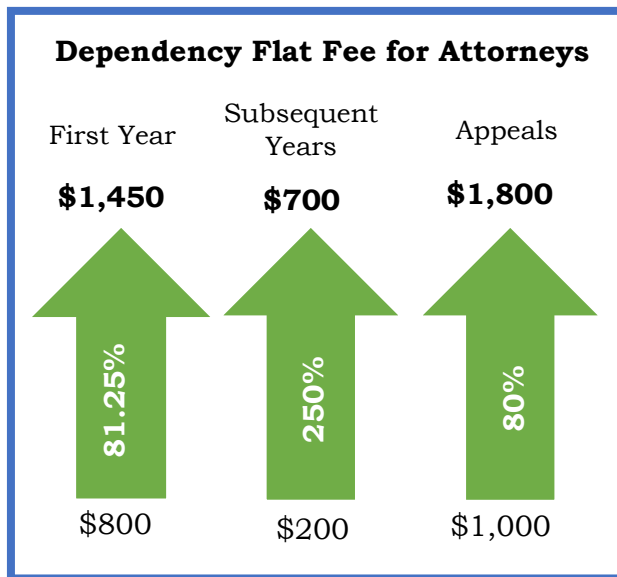




Dependency Attorney and Investigator Rate Increases Effective July 1, 2023

The Florida Legislature passed the General Appropriation Act (Senate Bill 2500) on May 5, 2023, including several increases to the rates applicable to state-funded court-appointed attorney fees and due process costs. These new rates shown below became effective July 1, 2023.





Implementing the Increases

Investigators

The effective investigator rates will be determined based on the date of the service. Services that occurred prior to July 1, 2023, will remain at the \$40 per hour rate. Services that occur on or after July 1, 2023, will be paid at the increased rate of \$50 per hour.

Though not required, to facilitate bill processing and payment, please submit separate bills for services occurring prior to July 1, 2023, and for services occurring on or after July 1, 2023.

Dependency/TPR Attorneys

The flat fee paid to attorneys appointed to Dependency and TPR cases will be determined based on the rate effective on the date of their appointment, or the anniversary date of the appointment as illustrated in the charts below:

Dependency Cases

Date of Appointment	1 st Year Payment	2 nd Year Payment	3 rd Year Payment	4 th Year Payment	5 th Year Payment
7/1/23 forward	1450	700	700	700	700
7/1/22 – 6/30/23	800	700	700	700	700
7/1/21 – 6/30/22	800	200	700	700	700
7/1/20 – 6/30/21	800	200	200	700	700
7/1/19 – 6/30/20	800	200	200	200	700

Examples:

- A new dependency appointment is made on June 28, 2023. The first-year flat fee would be \$800 (fee in effect on date of appointment). If the case remained open after June 28, 2024, the second-year flat fee would be \$700 (fee in effect on the anniversary date).
- A new dependency appointment is made on July 5, 2023. The first-year flat fee would be \$1,450 (fee in effect on date of appointment). If the case remained open, the second-year flat fee would be \$700 (fee in effect on the anniversary date).

In order to be eligible for the second or subsequent year payments, the case must remain open past the anniversary date of the appointment.

TPR Cases

Date of Appointment	1st Year Payment	2nd Year Payment	3rd Year Payment	4th Year Payment	5th Year Payment
7/1/23 forward	1800	700	700	700	700
7/1/22 – 6/30/23	1000	700	700	700	700
7/1/21 – 6/30/22	1000	200	700	700	700
7/1/20 – 6/30/21	1000	200	200	700	700
7/1/19 – 6/30/20	1000	200	200	200	700

Examples:

- A new TPR appointment is made on June 28, 2023. The first-year flat fee would be \$1,000 (fee in effect on date of appointment). If the case remained open, the second-year flat fee would be \$700 (fee in effect on the anniversary date).
- A new TPR appointment is made on July 5, 2023. The first-year flat fee would be \$1,800 (fee in effect on date of appointment). If the case remained open, the second-year flat fee would be \$700 (fee in effect on the anniversary date).

In order to be eligible for the second or subsequent year payments, the case must remain open past the anniversary date of the appointment.

Appellate Cases

Appointments on or after July 1, 2023, for dependency appellate cases, the attorney may bill a flat fee of \$1,200 upon filing of the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw. If a brief is filed and the attorney previously billed \$1,200 upon filing of the brief, the attorney may bill an additional flat fee of \$600 upon rendition of the mandate.

Similarly, for TPR appellate cases, the attorney may bill a flat fee of \$1,750 upon filing of the initial brief or the granting of a motion to withdraw. If a brief is filed and the attorney previously billed upon filing of the brief, the attorney may bill an additional flat fee of \$1,750 upon rendition of the mandate.

Please know that an attorney is not required to bill upon the filing of a brief. An attorney may elect to bill the full flat fee upon issuance of the appellate court mandate as long as the attorney filed a brief.