

SEATAC MUNICIPAL COURT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CASE WEIGHTING

A. The Court hereby adopts the Standards for Indigent Defense as promulgated by the Washington State Supreme Court, and as hereafter may be amended. It is anticipated that each attorney practicing within the SeaTac Municipal Court will comply with the Washington Supreme Court Standards for Indigent Defense as well as the Rules of Professional Conduct, professional performance guidelines, and standards endorsed or adopted by the Washington State Bar Association. These standards and this guideline are adopted and developed to ensure that attorneys promote quality representation of indigent defendants. "Quality representation" is intended to describe the minimum level of attention, care, and skill that Washington citizens would expect of their state's criminal justice system.

B. The following Case Weighting Guideline is hereby adopted by the SeaTac Municipal Court. This guideline recognizes that some cases require more or less time to prepare than cases of average complexity and effort, and therefore the intent of this Case Weighting Guideline is to more accurately assess the attorney workload involved in certain cases. The following is the general weighting system to be followed with the understanding that it is used as a guide and not a strict standard, as some cases that are weighted by this system as less than one full case may actually take more time to prepare or be more complex than a standard case of that type, and therefore may need to be weighted at a higher percentage. Likewise, case types that are weighted as one case or higher, may need to be weighted downward if the case is resolved with significantly less effort, or if it does not rise to the complexity level of a standard case of that type. If a case is to be weighted differently than as noted in the following weighting guideline, the court will hear from the attorney presenting the case the reasons for the variance from the weighting guideline, and the court will determine whether the weight of a given case should be modified. A case is defined as "the filing of a document with the court naming a defendant, to which an attorney is appointed in order to provide representation." Multiple citations from the same incident can be counted as one case.

C. This Case Weighting Guideline will be published on the Court's webpage, and takes immediate effect upon publication. If meaningful input which has not previously been considered is received, the Court will meet with the Public Defender for the City of SeaTac, and other interested or affected parties as determined by the Court, to ascertain whether or not the Case Weighting Guideline should be modified.

D. The Court will meet with the public defender and the prosecutor periodically as necessary to ensure that the weighting system still accurately reflects the amount of time and effort required to represent defendants on each case type, the complexity of each case type considering the attorney's experience as a factor, and to ensure that the system reflects current workloads.

E. All cases not listed in the following guideline shall be considered as one case, unless the appointment of counsel is made after disposition. Regardless of the type of case, if an appointment of counsel is made after disposition for representation at a noncomplex sentencing or review hearing, the case shall be weighted as at least 1/3 of a case.

F. Attorneys acting in a public defender capacity for defendants under the jurisdiction of the SeaTac Municipal Court are required to sign and file a Certification on a quarterly basis, on the form provided by this court and included on this court's webpage, declaring their compliance with the Supreme Court Standards. Any attorney acting in a public defender capacity before this court who fails to comply with the certification requirement will be ineligible for appointment as a public defender in SeaTac Municipal Court. The court will retain the Certifications filed in accordance with the state retention schedule. For a Certification form, go to:

<http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=6467>

G. For the purposes of determining how many cases each full-time equivalent attorney position is handling, and to allow attorneys to comply with the Certification requirements and Standards for Indigent Defense as set by the Supreme Court for the State of Washington and hereby adopted by the SeaTac Municipal Court, each case shall be counted as follows:

CASE WEIGHTING GUIDELINE

Allowing Minor to Frequent Tavern	-	1/3	-	-	-
Allowing Unauthorized Person to Drive	-	1/3	-	-	-
Altered License	-	1/3	-	-	-
Assault 4 (including Assault 4 Domestic Violence)	-	1	-	-	-
Assault with Sexual Intent	-	2	-	-	-
Animal Cruelty	-	1	-	-	-
Child Neglect	-	1	-	-	-
Criminal Attempt (including Attempted Assault, Forgery, and Theft)	-	2/3	-	-	-
Canceled Plates/Registration	-	1/3	-	-	-
Complicity	-	2/3	-	-	-
Commercial License Violation	-	1/3	-	-	-
Conspiracy	-	2/3	-	-	-
Criminal Assistance	-	1/3	-	-	-
Criminal Trespass	-	1/3	-	-	-
Custodial Interference	-	1	-	-	-
Cyber Stalking	-	1	-	-	-
Dangerous Animal at Large	-	2/3	-	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	-	1/3	-	-	-
DUI / Physical Control	-	1	-	-	-

DWLS 1	-	½	-	-	-
DWLS 2	-	½	-	-	-
DWLS 3	-	1/3	-	-	-
Escape	-	2/3	-	-	-
Failure to Transfer Title	-	1/3	-	-	-
Failure to Disperse	-	1/3	-	-	-
Failure to Obey Officer/Flagman (including Failure to Stop, Refusal to Cooperate)	-	½	-	-	-
Failure to Obtain Vehicle License (including Operating Vehicle without Certificate of Ownership)	-	1/3	-	-	-
Failure to Secure Load	-	1	-	-	-
Failure to Surrender License	-	1/3	-	-	-
False Identification (including Fraudulent Driver's License)		½	-	-	-
False Insurance Card	-	½	-	-	-
False Statement (including False Information, False Reporting)	-	1/2	-	-	-
Firearms Violations (including Unlawful Display or Discharge of a Firearm, and Concealed Weapon without a Permit, Possession Weapons Capable of Harm)	-	2/3	-	-	-
Furnishing Liquor to Minor (including Selling Liquor to Minor)	-	½	-	-	-
Harm to Police Dog	-	1	-	-	-
Harassment (including Domestic Violence Harassment and Telephone Harassment)	-	1	-	-	-
Hit and Run Attended	-	1	-	-	-
Hit and Run Unattended	-	½	-	-	-
Illegal Fireworks	-	1/3	-	-	-
Illegal Use of Dealer	-	1/3	-	-	-

Plate				
Immoral Conduct with a Minor	- 1	-	-	-
Indecent Exposure	- 1	-	-	-
Inhale Toxic Fumes	- 1	-	-	-
Interfering with Report to 911	- 2/3	-	-	-
Malicious Mischief (Non-Domestic Violence)	2/3	-	-	-
Malicious Mischief Domestic Violence	- 1	-	-	-
Minor in Possession/Consumption Alcohol (including Minor Frequenting Tavern, Minor Intoxicated in Public)	- ½	-	-	-
Negligent Driving 1	- 1	-	-	-
No Valid Operator's License	- 1/3	-	-	-
Obstructing Law Enforcement	- 2/3	-	-	-
Operating Vehicle without Ignition Interlock	- 1/2	-	-	-
Possession of Burglary Tools	- 2/3	-	-	-
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	- ½	-	-	-
Possession of Legend Drug	- 2/3	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Possession of Stolen Property	- 2/3	-	-	-
Prostitution (including Prostitution Loitering, Patronizing Prostitute)	- 1/2	-	-	-
Provoking Assault	- 2/3	-	-	-
Public Disturbance	- 1/3	-	-	-
Reckless Burning	- 2/3	-	-	-
Reckless Driving (including Racing)	- 2/3	-	-	-
Reckless Endangerment	- 2/3	-	-	-
Resisting Arrest	- 2/3	-	-	-
Stalking	- 1	-	-	-
Tampering with Witness	- 1	-	-	-
Theft 3 (including Theft	- 2/3	-	-	-

of Rental Property)				
Trip Permit Violation	- 1/3	-	-	-
Unlawful Bus Conduct	- 1/2	-	-	-
Unlawful Issuance of Bank Check	- 2/3	-	-	-
Vehicle Prowl (including Vehicle Trespass)	- 2/3	-	-	-
Violation of Order Prohibiting Contact (including Violation of No Contact Order, Violation Protection Order, Violation Anti-Harassment Order, Violation Restraining Order)	- 2/3	-	-	-
Violation Instruction Permit	- 1/3	-	-	-
Violation SOAP Order	- 1/2	-	-	-