

NUMBER

23-76-02

DATE

August 23, 2023

OF INTEREST TO

County Directors

Social Services Supervisors and
Staff

District and County Court
Administrators

Chief District Judges

District Judges

County Attorneys

Chief Public Defenders

Probation: County, Department
of Correction and Community
Corrections

Jail Administrators

Direct Care & Treatment –
Executive Directors, Site
Directors and Billing Staff

ACTION/DUE DATE

Please read information and
prepare for implementation

EXPIRATION DATE

August 23, 2025

Direct Care and Treatment – Forensic Services Billing Rates for Court Ordered Evaluations

TOPIC

Forensic Services provides inpatient and outpatient court ordered evaluations that are coordinated through the Forensic Network. New rates have been established and are effective for all evaluations submitted on or after 11/01/2023. This bulletin replaces bulletin #21-76-03.

PURPOSE

Announce new rates for court-ordered evaluations provided by the Forensic Network.

CONTACT

For billing questions: Victoria Alabi, Billing Manager, at 651-478-8002

For clinical questions: Kelly Bechen, Forensic Coordination Supervisor, at 507-985-2007

SIGNED



MARSHALL E. SMITH, MHA, LNHA, FACHE
Health System Chief Executive Officer
Direct Care and Treatment

TERMINOLOGY NOTICE

The terminology used to describe people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

I. Minnesota Rules of Criminal Procedure

Rule 20 Evaluation Rates (Adult and Juvenile)

A. Outpatient Rule 20 Evaluations

These are gross misdemeanor or felony cases where the defendants are not in a Direct Care and Treatment (DCT) facility and may either be in custody or in the community. Forensic Services offers a variety of Rule 20 Evaluations, which include:

- Rule 20.01, Subdivision 4 – Competency to Proceed Evaluations
- Rule 20.01, Subdivision 7 – Updated Competency Evaluations
- Rule 20.02, Subdivision 2 – Criminal Responsibility Evaluations
- Combination Rule 20.01, Subdivision 4 and Rule 20.02, Subdivision 2
- Commitment Evaluations per Rule 20.04 may also be ordered and will only be performed in conjunction with other evaluations. Unless otherwise specified in the court order, the examiner statement will be included in the Rule 20.01, Subdivision 4 report.

Evaluations and testimony will be billed at an hourly rate of \$100.00 per hour. In cases where travel is required by the examiner, travel will be billed as defined in the State Court Administrator's (SCA) Psychological/Psychiatric Examiner Services Payment Policy. If overnight lodging is required, the Court Administrator will need to preapprove lodging. Reimbursement for travel will be submitted with the evaluation.

NOTE: The courts are responsible to cover all costs associated with interpreter services. Court Administration can either arrange for the interpreter services directly or coordinate with Direct Care and Treatment (DCT) - Forensic Services. The court shall reimburse all interpreter costs directly to the vendor.

B. Inpatient Rule 20 Evaluations

These are cases where the defendants are specifically ordered to have a Rule 20 evaluation completed after being admitted to a DCT facility on an inpatient basis. These evaluations must be performed by a forensic examiner employed by DCT and offer the same variety of evaluations listed above.

Inpatient evaluations at Forensic Services include two billing components:

1. Professional assessment and evaluation - \$287.00 per day

The professional assessment and evaluation rate for inpatient evaluations shall be billed directly to the County Court Administration that ordered the evaluation (Minnesota Statutes, section 480.182).

2. Room and Board - \$774.00 per day

The room and board rate for inpatient evaluations shall be billed directly to the county human services agency where the order originated (Minnesota Statutes, section 253B.045).

If a defendant is referred and admitted to DCT - Forensic Services exclusively for an inpatient evaluation, the county shall be billed according to the inpatient billing procedures noted above. However, if a defendant is already admitted to DCT-Forensic Services pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 253B and a subsequent Rule 20 examination is ordered, or a defendant is admitted to another DCT facility (such as Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center) the evaluation shall be billed as an outpatient evaluation.

II. Mandatory Repeat Sex Offender Assessments (Minnesota Statutes, section 609.3457)

All mandatory repeat sex offender assessments are completed on an outpatient basis and are not considered for inpatient admission to Forensic Services.

Evaluations and testimony will be billed at an hourly rate of \$100.00 per hour. In cases where travel is required by the examiner, travel will be billed as defined in the State Court Administrator's (SCA) Psychological/Psychiatric Examiner Services Payment Policy. If overnight lodging is required, the court administrator will need to preapprove lodging. Reimbursement for travel will be submitted with the evaluation.

III. Neuropsychological Testing

Neuropsychological testing may be recommended by the examiner for inpatient or outpatient Rule 20 cases. This supplemental testing is available through DCT - Forensic Services; however, there is an additional fee. The cost of neuropsychological testing will be billed in addition to the Rule 20 examination rate. A court order is required to ensure the court authorized payment.

Neuropsychological testing will be billed at a rate of \$100.00 per hour.

IV. Referral Process

The Forensic Network is structured with a centralized access and referral point. All **outpatient** evaluation requests shall to be referred to:

Kelly Bechen, Forensic Coordination Supervisor

Phone: 507-985-2007

Fax: 651-431-7778

Email: Forensic.coordinator@state.mn.us

For **inpatient** services, please contact the DCT Central Pre-Admission office at:

Phone: 651-431-5337

Fax: 651-431-7705

Email: dhs.sos.centralpreadmissions@state.mn.us

Courts are highly encouraged to use the Rule 20 Order templates prepared by SCAO and are available on CourtNet. The Forensic Coordination Supervisor can assist in providing an order template for Mandatory Repeat Sex Offender Evaluations.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling (651) 431-3676 (voice) or toll free at (800) 627-3529, or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.