

# UNITED STATES CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY LAW

# ATTORNEY FEE SURVEY STATES REPORT

2017-2018



Ronald L. Burdge, Esq.

#### **United States Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey States Report 2017-2018**

Survey Conducted By and Survey Report Authored By

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### Acknowledgments

This work is dedicated to the private and public practice members of the Bankruptcy Law bar and the Judicial officers who handle Bankruptcy Law cases across the United States and its territories, all of whom tirelessly dedicate their careers to helping people find economic relief and Justice every day in our legal system. Without their support and participation, the research for this publication would not have been possible.

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Finally, no words could adequately express my thanks to my wife, who guided, supported and encouraged me every day for the decades throughout this work. I could not do what I do, and I would accomplish nothing without her.

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#### 1. Introduction

This Survey Report publishes the results of the United States Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2017-2018. This Bankruptcy Law Survey Report analyzes and reports on the Consumer Bankruptcy Law data drawn from the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2017-2018. Included in this Survey Report is all data that was provided by survey participants in the Consumer Law survey who reported that their practice included the area of Bankruptcy Law. This survey is the only Consumer Bankruptcy Law survey whose methodologies have been peer reviewed and approved by the National Association of Legal Fee Analysis, a non-profit professional association for the field of legal fee analysis.

The field of Consumer Law involves several niche areas, including Bankruptcy Law. Question number 3 in the national survey asked survey participants to identify which niche areas of Consumer Law they regularly handled. Where Bankruptcy Law was indicated by a survey participant, that participant's responses were then included in the compilation and analysis of data presented in this Bankruptcy Law Survey Report. If a participant in the national survey did not indicate that they regularly practiced in the area of Bankruptcy Law, their survey responses were not considered for this report.

The U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report continues to be the only national survey of consumer Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Law practitioners in the United States and has been used to determine reasonable attorney fee rates in more than 46 jurisdictions, including state and federal courts, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the American Arbitration Association, resulting in more than \$10 million in awards across the United States.

Bankruptcy Law attorneys in every state and the U.S. Territories took part in the national survey and the results this year continue the trend of being the most comprehensive since our continuous research work began in 1999.

The findings cited in this Survey Report are based on a survey employing an online, email, and telephone survey representing about 4,500 members of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and the National Association of Consumer Advocates and other known attorneys practicing in the area of Bankruptcy Law identified through Avvo.com, Lawyers.com, and court filings around the country. Data was provided and/or obtained for this survey from and on behalf of 1,305 attorneys

and 783 paralegals participants in the United States Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey 2017-2018, establishing an approximate 21.7% participation rate. This participation rate was robust when compared with similar state bar association surveys located 6 recent economics of law practice surveys with an average participation rate of 7.95%.<sup>1</sup>

#### Methods to Update Survey Results from 2017-2018 to Current Date

Because the survey was conducted in 2017 and 2018, the data reported represents 2017 and 2018 values. The reader may find some minor adjustment necessary or desirable for application outside of 2017 and 2018. Courts<sup>2</sup> have at times used percentage increases derived from the U.S. Census Consumer Price Index<sup>3</sup> to adjust rates to updated levels and localized updated levels.

#### Goals of Bankruptcy Law Survey and Survey Report

The primary goals of Bankruptcy Law Survey Report of this research project have been and continue to be to:

 provide timely, relevant and accurate data and information to inform and guide practical, management, and planning decisions by Bankruptcy and Law attorneys, including private practitioners, non-private practitioners, the judiciary, and government workers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A March 2019 Google search of the term "Economics of Law Practice Survey," a common title for many bar association surveys, resulted in survey reports with participation rates that could be compared to state attorney totals as follows: Colorado (6.7%), Florida (.00682%, i.e., less than 1%), Kansas (11.6%), Michigan (10.8), New Mexico (10.8%), Wisconsin (7.8%). The National Law Journal's Survey of Law Firm Economics 2018 (based on 2017 data) surveyed 3,434 lawyers out of the nationwide total of 1,352,027 - just .0253%, i.e, less than 1%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Barnard v. Berryhill, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38671 (D.C. N.D. E. D. Ohio, Mar. 11, 2019); United States Postal Serv. Fed. Credit Union v. Edwin, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 31532, 2018 WL 1077291 (D. Virgin Islands, St. Croix Div., Feb. 27, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See CPI Inflation Calculator, available at <a href="https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation\_calculator.htm">https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation\_calculator.htm</a> (Last visited Oct. 1, 2019).

UNITED STATES CONSUMER LAW SURVEY REPORT 2015-2016 BANKRUPTCY EDITION

- better understand the demographics of Bankruptcy Law attorneys and their practice
- monitor and document general and key trends in the legal profession, based on previous and present survey research and analysis
- understand and quantify how attorney compensation (e.g., hourly rate) is impacted by various variable factors (e.g., experience in terms of years in practice, niche area of practice, experience level, geographic location, and more)
- collect thorough and accurate information on the economic realities associated with the career field to share with the bar, present and potential future attorneys, and the bench
- create a point of reference for future economic surveys of Bankruptcy Law practitioners.

#### What's New

A number of beneficial changes in format and content are introduced with this edition of the Survey Report. This section provides a central point where changes that appear in this new edition of the Survey Report are highlighted, explained and contrasted with the previous edition.

Foremost is the addition of survey data derived from hundreds of attorney fee decisions in and related to the field of Consumer Law and its niche area of Bankruptcy Law which were issued by state and federal courts and administrative agencies in the United States and its Territories during 2017 and 2018. Sources for these fee decisions included Lexis, Westlaw, unreported case decisions, and private attorneys across the United States and it Territories. In each such fee decision, the court-awarded hourly rates were matched with the Court's geographical jurisdiction, each identified participating attorney's years in practice and firm size, their primary field of practice, the relevant Consumer Law niche area involved in the case, their law firm size, and other required survey data field requirements. Where the necessary responsive survey data was not present in the court decision itself, internet research was individually undertaken to gather the missing relevant survey data points. In those few cases where necessary survey data points were still absent, individual attorneys were contacted by telephone and email to obtain the missing data points.

Thus, this edition of the Survey Report provides data that is based on reported

data from participants and also actual fee decisions made by courts and agencies in the United States during 2017 and 2018. Such decision-based data was included in this Survey Report without regard to whether or not the decision forum relied on prior editions of this Survey Reports, e.g., all Consumer and Consumer Bankruptcy Law fee decisions in 2017 and 2018 were included in the resulting survey data upon which this Survey Report is based. The addition of these data points to the survey data allows the resulting Survey Report to achieve the highest level of accuracy in its results.

Another major change was the limitation of this report to only state and territories data providing a data breakdown geographically covering 66.5% of the entire U.S. population.

The explanation of survey techniques, previously Section 5 of earlier Survey Reports, is now more centrally located in this Section 1, the Introduction.

The Summary Profile of the Typical U.S. Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney, section 2, has been expanded to include comparison data fields contrasting current data results with results from the last Survey Report, for easy comparison of broad historical data points.

This Survey Report continues coverage of every state, the District of Columbia and the two most heavily populated U.S. Territories, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands with more data points from survey participation than ever before.

Since the Consumer Law survey began in 1999, greater localized data reporting has continued to be preferred by the Bench and Bar. To better serve the continued sharpening of this shift in focus, the Survey Report has evolved over time from its original twelve multi-state regions to individualized and localized data reporting for rural and urban areas. This change continues our effort to provide the reader with a quick and easy analysis of relevant state and territory data on an ever increasing and higher level of accuracy and locality, as reflected in the separate Consumer Law State Survey Report and Consumer Law Metro Survey Report. It is expected that the resulting analyses will be of greater use to the reader, the profession, the Bench, and Bar.

Specific factors are recognized to commonly have a larger impact on an hourly rate than other, less common factors. These factors can vary the hourly rate by their application and continue to be called Variables in this Survey Report. Thus what might be termed as Years in Practice, in prior editions of this survey and elsewhere, is now

termed more accurately as an Experience Variable. The experience level of an advocate is a primary variable in determining a reasonable hourly rate.

To more clearly identify the meaning of "Firm Size" in the Survey Report tables, the title has been changed to "Average Number of Attorneys in Firm."

To better understand the "years in practice" variable and its localized impact on a professional's hourly rate in more populous states, a selected group of data-rich states in this Survey Report are now followed by an Experience Variable table that shows changing hourly rates over a practitioner's career. These Experience Variable tables take the years in practice of legal practitioners and breaks it down into brackets, generally in five year increments and capped by the elder bracket of 45+ years in practice. The average attorney hourly rate for each bracket is then provided.

Previously the ten states with the largest survey participation provided detailed data that allowed those state Survey Reports to include additional data tables, including a Small Firm Size Variable table, and Large Firm Size Variable table. The substantial increase in survey participation and the addition of data points from court fee award data has allowed detailed, in-depth analysis to now be reported on 17 states, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Washington.

The Small Firm Size Variable table and the Large Firm Size Variable table each take the Experience Variable tables and separate them by law firm size, as measured by the average number of attorneys in the firm, and then report the average attorney hourly rates for each years in practice bracket therein. This allows further contrast of data between large and small firm members by their levels of experience in data-rich states

The Table of Authorities has been expanded with additional case citations that provides a convenient alphabetical listing of cases and authorities cited in this Survey Report, updated to September 10, 2019.

#### Survey Report Sections Explained

After this introductory section, the results of this Survey Report are reported in two major data sections. At the beginning of each Section is an explanatory table of the Section's structure and content.

It should also be noted that throughout this Survey Report various data is reported for paralegal employees. The term "paralegal" is not a restricted job title. As used in this Survey Report, the term paralegal includes both certified and non-certified paralegals along with legal assistants and other bankruptcy support staff performing paralegal level tasks, regardless of any state or other certification status.

Section 2 of this Survey Report contains the Summary Profile of the Typical U.S. Bankruptcy Law Attorney, a collective approach to the national survey results which yields a general picture of key aspects of the typical Bankruptcy Law practitioner in the United States and its territories. It is based on the survey results as a whole and may serve as a benchmark for both larger and local comparisons by the reader.

Section 3 begins the State Summary Tables analyses for each state in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and includes a table of the Median Rate for each of the six major niche practice areas for each state, reporting the 25% Median, the Median, and the 95% Median hourly rate brackets, as further explained below. This section provides the Survey's analytical approach to each state or area's survey results for the practice of Bankruptcy Law, which yields a more detailed summary picture of key aspects of the typical U.S. Bankruptcy Law practitioner in each survey state or area.

There are some instances where the survey data from Bankruptcy Law practitioners in some states was statistically insufficient and valid data conclusions could not be reached for the Bankruptcy Law niche area of Consumer Law. In those instances, the survey data published here is reproduced from that state's data results reported in the U.S. Consumer Law Survey Report, which covers all six niche areas of the field of Consumer Law and includes Bankruptcy Law. In those instances, data points in the Consumer Law Survey Report may be helpful in determining other data points for the Bankruptcy Law niche area. Each such state area is identified with an asterisk (\*) at the end of the state name heading.

For instance, the median hourly rate for all niche areas is displayed by state, and the median bankruptcy hourly rate may be used to extrapolate data points in other categories of data by comparison.

If the reader practices in a state that this Survey Report reflects as having insufficient data at present, then the Editor requests your participation in the currently open Consumer Bankruptcy Law survey by going to www.AttorneyFeeStudy.com on the

internet and that the reader encourage others to do so.

Some readers have indicated an interest in gaining a better understanding of the richness and depth of the data upon which this report is based. To that end Section 4, State Area Bankruptcy Law Billable Data Table, reports the data point count for each state and territory covered in this Survey Report. This allows the reader to see the quantity of participative data for each geographical area in this Survey Report. There are some instances where the survey data from Bankruptcy Law practitioners in some geographical areas was statistically insufficient and in those instances this table does list those states' data and the area tables published for those areas are reproduced from that area's data in the U.S. Consumer Law Survey Report, including the bankruptcy data reported there, so that some comparative data exists for the reader's use. In the reported tables each such area is identified with an asterisk (\*) at the end of the state name heading.

Section 5 explains Survey Techniques in general and those used in gathering the data reported herein.

Section 6 provides a brief discussion of cases employing the use of prior editions of this Survey Report along with a listing of citations to cases which have used or cited the Survey Report since its inception.

Section 7 discusses various cases that have dealt with the actual use of survey data in court proceedings such as fee hearings, with citations.

Section 8 provides biographical information about the Survey Report Editor.

Section 9 provides contact information for the reader's recommendations for future survey data gathering or other suggestion.

The Appendices provide additional useful information related to the Survey Report, including the actual survey questions and possible answers for each. Note should be taken that this survey introduced many more questions than ever before, allowing more specific practice data to be included in this report, which required considerably more time to complete the analyses for this Survey Report

Niche Areas in the Field of Consumer Law Defined

While this Consumer Bankruptcy Law focuses on just one niche area of Consumer Law, the field of Consumer Law is recognized as a specialized field of law dealing with issues arising from transactions involving one or more persons acting as individuals or as a family. Consumer Law as a field of law typically includes niche areas, e.g. bankruptcy, credit discrimination, consumer banking, warranty law, unfair and deceptive acts and practices, and more narrow topics of consumer law such as consumer protection rights enabled by specific statutes such as the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Uniform Consumer Sales Practices Act, state and federal lemon laws, and many others.

While Consumer Law is a field of law, for greater analysis of the niche areas within Consumer Law the following categorization has been made for purposes of this Survey Report and the Median Rate for Practice Areas tables:

- 1. Bankruptcy
- 2. Class Action
- 3. Credit Rights (FCRA, FDCPA, ECOA, TILA, Credit Discrimination, Credit Reporting, Debt Defense, etc)
- 4. Mortgage (Foreclosure Defense, RESPA, HOLA, Real Estate, Housing Rights, etc.
- 5. Vehicles (Autofraud, Lemon Law, Warranty Law, UDAP, Repossession Law, etc.)
- 6. TCPA
- 7. Other

Detailed data on these other niche areas within the field of Consumer Law is reported in the companion volume, the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report. Since a significant number of Consumer Bankruptcy attorneys supplement their practice with work in other niche areas of Consumer Law particularly Credit Rights consumer protection laws, data analysis from these other niche areas is also included in this Consumer Bankruptcy Survey Report.

#### Geographic Areas Defined

Survey participant data was gathered in 2017 and 2018 and then analyzed and compiled for this Survey Report for all 50 states and the geographic areas of the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Average and the Median: What it Means to You

To help practitioners understand and interpret the data in this Survey Report, a brief explanation of common data terminology in this Survey Report may be useful.

The tables in this Survey Report use some terms whose meaning, while understood by statisticians, may not be clear to attorneys and Judges. The data is presented in measures of central tendency (mean and median) and dispersion or spread (percentiles).

The mean (sometimes called the arithmetic average) is calculated by adding the values of all responses, then dividing by the number of responses.

For example, five responses are reported, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12. The average is calculated by adding their values (3 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 12 = 33), then dividing by the number of responses (5). Thus, the average is 33 / 5 = 6.6.

The median has a different meaning. It is the middle value of a series of values, which is initially rank-ordered from low to high. By definition, half the numbers are greater and half are less than the median. Both mean and median values are used throughout this Survey Report to denote the measure of central tendency, e.g., as a pointer for the central area of survey results without regard to the average.

Statisticians variously agree that using the median as a statistic reduces the effect of extreme outlier numbers (extremely high or low values, such as 12 in the above example) while the average does not do so because it takes all numbers into account.

As an example of how using a median affects the above numbers, the same five responses are reported, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12. The median is the middle number of the order of distribution, 6. Note, however, that the average of this same distribution of numbers is 6.6. Depending on the set of numbers under analysis, the mean (i.e., the average) may be incrementally higher or lower than the actual median of that set of numbers.

The median literally is the value in the middle. It represents the mid way point in a sequence of numbers. It is determined by lining up the values in the set of data (for example, in this fee survey that would be all of the individual fee rate responses logged in the survey) from the smallest to the largest. The one in the dead-center position is the median number.

The median is not the average of the numbers because you don't add anything in the list, but you merely determine the center of the list. Some statisticians say that using the mean (instead of the average) gives less weight to the individual numbers that are on the outer limits of the survey responses and thus it is more likely to direct the survey to the real center of the responses.

The median result of a set of numbers may be higher or lower than the average of that same set of numbers. Because the median number is commonly not the same as the average number, being either slightly above or below it, we are including both the average and the median results for key data points in the survey.

The dispersion of data around the median, which is at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile point, is reported in three increments in several places throughout the Survey Report:

- ♦ 25<sup>th</sup> percentile (what statisticians call the lower quartile); one-fourth of the number values are less and three-fourth of the values are more than this value
- ♦ 75<sup>th</sup> percentile (the upper quartile); three-fourths of the number values are less and one-fourth are more than this value
- 95<sup>th</sup> percentile; ninety-five percent of the number values are less and only five percent are more than this value.

Interpreting the Findings: Primary and Minor Variable Factors Explained

An hourly rate may commonly be impacted by several factors, including years of practice, firm size, practice location, and degree of practice concentration. These four variables are known to have a significant impact on an hourly rate and in this survey are identified as the primary variables.

Depending on the specific situation, there are other variable factors that historically are often of less impact than the primary variables, such as advertising, personal client relationships, and other remote factors. These minor variables may apply in any given instance but almost always to a lesser variable degree than the primary variables. Most often these minor variables are highly individual to the practitioner at hand.

Thus, the information presented here on the factors that are primary variables will be indicative of a particular attorney's reasonable hourly rate but there may be times when a further, more detailed analysis of minor variable factors may be useful to further modify the result of the primary variable factors in a specific situation. Such further analysis is not possible in this Survey Report but would require an individual inquiry and even then the impact of such individualistic minor variables is doubtful.

A Summary Profile of the Typical U.S. Bankruptcy Law Attorney is presented at the outset of this Survey Report in Section 2, in order to provide a summary profile of the average Bankruptcy Law attorney and their practice in the United States and it territories. It may be viewed as the average of all bankruptcy practitioner survey responses nationwide. Charts appear here which are employed in the state sections, enabling a state versus national comparison of the survey results. This provides the reader with a different data perspective than the more localized Meetro Survey Report.

Where sufficient data exists, an Experience Variable Table will appear in the Tables and present an analysis of the impact that years in practice in Consumer Bankruptcy Law has on the average attorney hourly rate. Such tables of survey results with the levels of experience, e.g., years in practice, are divided into 12 time frames with less than one year and more than 45 years bracketing the outer limits at each end. One might think that longevity of practice would dictate an increasingly higher hourly rate and these tables report survey results that test that assumption and, in some cases, variations are observed, but historically, that has not always proven to be true. It is noted, however to be more often found in this Survey Report edition than ever before. Economic trends outside of this survey may test the basic assumption even further but are not considered in this survey. The Experience Variable Table for some areas is absent where a geographical area lacked statistically valid depth.

The State and Territory Summary Tables in Section 3 is presented to give an overview of the practice of Consumer Bankruptcy Law lawyers for each listed geographical area. Note the use of both average and median results in these sections, with the median used to reduce the effect of extremely high or low values in some data. These tables also show the difference in survey results when comparing the average hourly rates and the median hourly rates, a factor considered by some statisticians to arrive at what they consider to be more neutral or accurate survey results in the use of median-based data. Which results to use, average or median, is up to the reader.

Surveys are widely considered to be important tools in any evaluation process. There are fundamentally two types of surveys: open ended questioning and closed ended questioning.

Open ended questions allow the responder to respond in any manner at all with no definite or limited answer. Close ended questions provide a limited number of possible answers from which a response can be chosen by the responder. Because open ended questions allow for an unlimited response, they can lead to a subjective analysis and the results are almost always more difficult to interpret and quantify for analysis.

Close ended questions, however, lend their responses to an easy and objective statistical analysis. This survey employed only close ended questions.

There are five types of close ended questions.

A Likert-scale question allows for responses on a scale and allows a responder to state their feelings about an issue, such as strongly agree to strongly disagree. Multiple choice questions allow the responder to select from a finite number of responses. Ordinal questions ask the responder to rate things in relation to each other, such as selecting the most important to the least important responses about an issue. Categorical questions first place the responder in a category and then poses questions based on those categories, such as preceding questions with the initial inquiry of whether the responder is male or female. Numerical questions are used when the answer must be a real number.

Different types of questions are used in survey work so that different types of result analyses may be conducted, but the most common survey techniques are the numerical and the multiple choice question because of the ease with which conclusions may be derived from the raw data.

In general, this survey used numerical and multiple choice questions. This allows for precise responses that can readily be cataloged and statistically interpreted. Categorical questions also exist within the survey that allowed for more information to be obtained from practitioners of consumer bankruptcy law, while allowing non-consumer bankruptcy practitioners to skip that focused section of the survey.

In addition to considering the types of questions to be employed in a survey, the very design of the survey itself should be considered. This requires considering the placement, wording, sequencing, and other factors that can influence accurate data gathering.

In designing the United States Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey, the author considered all procedure, question and design factors enumerated and discussed in three primary sources: *Evaluating Survey Questions: An Inventory of Methods* prepared by the Subcommittee on Questionnaire Evaluation Methods of the Statistical and Science Policy Office in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (January 2016), and *Evaluating Survey Questions* by Doctor Chase H. Harrison of Harvard University's Program on Survey Research, and *Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questions* by Stanley Presser et al, as published in Public Opinion Quarterly Vol. 68, Issue 1 (March 2004).

#### Data Gathering Methodology

Understanding the data gathering methodology for this survey may assist the reader to understand, interpret, and apply the results published in this Survey Report.

This Survey Report is based on the results from two primary sources of data: the survey that was fielded to advocates operating in the field of Consumer Law during 2017 and 2018 and a continual survey of all available court and administrative decisions on attorney fees in consumer civil and administrative litigation during 2017 and 2018. It is expected that this blend of data practitioner reported rates and court actual rate decisions will achieve a high level of accuracy.

In each case, the answers to a select number of key data questions was obtained. In addition, specific consumer bankruptcy practice questions were added to provide a more detailed analysis of that niche area, because of unique aspects and issues in Bankruptcy Law. The analysis of that data appears in a separate Survey Report.

The fielded survey was administered via email, ordinary mail, facsimile and telephonic data gathering and invitations to an internet-based online questionnaire. The survey was closed when data compilation began in early 2019.

In compiling this Survey Report, a valuable contribution was made by members

of the National Association of Consumer Advocates and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, and Consumer Law attorneys independently determined to exist across the United States and its territories, who were invited to participate during 2017 and 2018.

The entire active membership of the National Association of Consumer Advocates and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, along with other known Consumer Law practitioners from around the United States and its territories were asked to participate in the survey.

Invitations to participate were also randomly sent to Consumer Law attorneys discovered through internet search engine results conducted on a national level, including specific lawyer and professional listing web sites such as Avvo.com, Lawyers.com and LinkedIn.com, as well as randomly selected physical telephone book specialty listings. Invitations to participate were also randomly sent to attorneys identified through court filings in various jurisdictions and bar association directories.

As noted above, this survey included a systematic, comprehensive survey of court and administrative agency cases involving disputed attorney fee issues in consumer civil and administrative agency litigation. The resulting fee decisions which are included in the survey database came from every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

To accomplish this case survey, case alerts were created and established in Lexis and Westlaw so that the Survey Editor would receive alerts to every consumer dispute decision involving attorney fees. With each such alert, the case decision was read, the fee-prevailing attorneys identified and researched. In some cases the attorneys were invited to participate in the survey or directly asked survey questions, but in many cases the research results revealed the survey's required responses for each such attorney and were entered individually into the survey database. As a result, this Survey Report presents the results of both attorney participants and actual decisions made by courts and administrative agencies that occurred during 2017 and 2018.

As with prior surveys, an on-line survey service was utilized to gather and tabulate the results with safeguards in place to limit data input to one participant per survey. Additional direct email and telephone survey input was also utilized. As the data was analyzed, all substantial outlier data points were each investigated for authenticity, and disregarded where authenticity was not established.

Our similar studies have been undertaken continually since 1999. The objective of these studies has been to determine and report upon the demographics of Consumer Law practitioners, including attorney hourly billing rate, firm size, years in practice, concentration of practice, areas of primary and secondary practice, paralegal billing rates and other data of use to the profession.

The collected information has been condensed into this national reference to provide useful data and benchmarks to inform the public, bar, and bench, to assist attorneys who handle consumer disputes as they manage their practice, and provide useful aid to judicial officers as they seek to determine applicable reasonable hourly rates in the cases and disputes before them.

The data is reported in a variety of focus tables below, allowing the reader to consider the data from several viewpoints of selected factors or criteria. Nevertheless there may be situations where a practitioner desires a data analysis and report specific to their practice or situation. If a more detailed analysis of data for any geographic or practice-specific situation is necessary, it can be performed upon request directed to the editor of this work.

#### **Data Analysis Methodology**

The data analysis relies on descriptive statistics, including averages, medians, and percentiles. The average, also known as the mean, is calculated by adding all of the respondents' numerical answers for a particular item and dividing by the total number of respondents. The median, also known as the midpoint, is the point at which half of the responses are above and half are below that number.

The percentiles, e.g., 25<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, and 95<sup>th</sup>, represent the point in the range of responses at which 25%, 75%, 95% of the responses occur for a specific question. For example, the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile hourly rate amount is the hourly rate amount at which 95% of the reported hourly rate amounts were below and 5% of the hourly rate amounts were above.

Items may not sum up to 100% due to rounding. Data is indicated as a dash mark (e.g., " - ") if no data or if insufficient data was reported.

Data is presented for all of the United States and the geopolitical areas of the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Some survey data

quantities allowed for greater analysis reporting than other geographic areas because not all reported at high levels of data responses. In most table fields, survey participation yielded sufficient data for reliable analysis without inference. In the State Summary Tables, the minimum state participation level was 10 survey participants for analyses to be performed. In a Median Rate for Practice Areas table, if one field had no survey participant then the remaining six other practice area fields in that table would be considered and the median result entered in the field that had insufficient participation.

This was a r0bust survey, e.g., there are more than 4,102 fields of data calculation with sufficient input to be reported in this Consumer Bankruptcy Law Survey Report but only nine of these data fields lacked sufficient input from survey participants when the survey was closed, which represents 0.0021672 of all data presented. The results for these nine data fields were imputed using a variation of the scientifically accepted standard Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) method statistical approach, which estimates the parameters of a statistical model given observations by finding the parameter values that maximize the likelihood of making the observations given the parameters. This approach assumes a uniform prior distribution of the parameters, which was verified to exist by examination of the presented data in this survey.

The common variation of MLE employed here used multiple but related fields as sources of data for imputation, invoking multiple fields of related known data to arrive at imputed data for the three missing fields. Data fields used for imputation purposes were limited to geographically contiguous data fields because of the established multistate regional data relationships observed over our years of previous survey data analyses. Simply put, data movement has always been more relational within a region than when contrasted between regions.

In performing calculations of state data for any field in any table, several rules applied for the imputation of missing or insufficient data.

First, if the current survey state data was insufficient then using the prior survey result the editor looked first for a field with data in the prior survey that was contiguous to the data deficient field in the current survey. Next, the editor determined the percentage change from one data field to the next data field in the prior survey and then applied that percentage change to the current survey to calculate the percentage change that would occur from the same known contiguous field to the data deficient field in the current survey. Finally, if there was none then the editor would use the average of all

contiguous states' data in the deficient field to determine the entry for the insufficient data field.

#### Peer Review of Methodologies and Survey Analyses

The National Association of Legal Fee Analysis (NALFA) has reviewed the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report prior to publication and has announced its support of methodology used in the data collection and analyses performed. See Appendix 3. This United States Consumer Bankruptcy Law Survey Report uses bankruptcy practice data data taken from the Consumer Law Survey Report.

NALFA is a 501(c)(6) non-profit professional association for the legal fee analysis field, providing services on attorney fee and legal billing matters. Courts and clients turn to NALFA for expertise when attorney fees and expenses are at issue in large complex cases. NALFA members include fully qualified attorney fee experts, special fee masters, bankruptcy fee examiners, fee dispute mediators and legal bill auditors and NALFA members follow Best Practices in legal fee analysis. For more information, visit www.thenalfa.org.

Separately, the Survey Report data was independently peer reviewed for accuracy in its data gathering, analyses and reporting by practitioners of Consumer Law.

#### **Error Rate**

Before publication, a hand selected review was conducted of selected data received during this survey and compared with the data reported in one or more previous surveys. The results indicate an error rate of less than one percentage point at the 95% confidence level in the present Survey Report, an error rate number substantially lower than the published error rate of similar types of surveys.

#### Section 508 Compliance

The United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey, from which the data for this Bankruptcy Edition is drawn, is the only survey of its type that is Section 508 Certified. This means that the survey program on which this survey runs meets all current U.S. Federal Section 508 certification guidelines.

Section 508 is a Federal law that outlines the requirements to make online information and services accessible to users with disabilities. All Federal agencies are required to use 508 certified software and technologies when available.

The Voluntary Product Accessibility Template was used in the design of the survey. VPAT's purpose is to assist Federal contracting officials and others in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial "Electronic and Information Technology" products and services with features that support accessibility. The VPAT was developed by the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) in partnership with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

Use of the VPAT means that this survey is built on programming that includes a text element for every non-text element of the survey web page, web pages are designed so that all information displayed with color is also available without color, all parts of the survey are readable without having to open another window, and other techniques to enable disabled persons to fully participate in every aspect of the Fee Survey.

The Editor deems it important that the survey reach the broadest range of potential respondents possible in order to provide the reader with the most accurate results. By including survey feedback from the disabled demographic, the survey ensures a more representative population is able to participate so that all demographics may be included in the survey results.

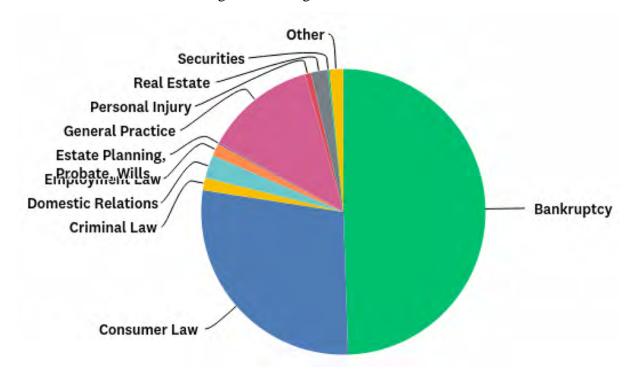
#### 2. Summary Profile of the Typical U.S. Consumer Bankruptcy Law Attorney

#### National Summary Profile Data

This section graphically illustrates and contrasts key data derived from the survey when viewed only from a national approach. Emphasis here is on the average Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorney in the United States without regard for any specific survey factor or geographic location. More specific data results appear in the next section below.

In this year's survey a large portion of survey participants again predominantly practiced Bankruptcy Law while mixing their practice with other niche areas inthe field of Consumer Law. However, a wider than ever variety of other areas of practice were noticed, supplemented in part by Bankruptcy and Consumer Law work. 21.3% of Bankruptcy attorneys do not supplement their practice, with less than 5% of their time expended on work in the Consumer Law field.

The Practice Area That Represents the Largest Percentage of Your Practice Time

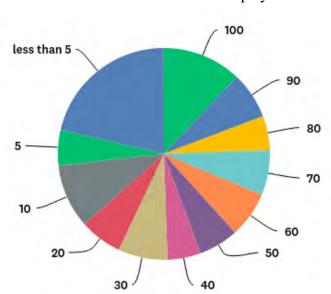


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Conversely, the average Consumer Law attorney continues to supplement their practice primarily with Consumer Bankruptcy work.

The data continues to show both Bankruptcy Law attorneys and Consumer Law niche area attorneys recognize the client needs which cross back and forth in the niche areas of Consumer Law.

The percentage of actual practice time expended solely on non-Bankruptcy Law Consumer Law matters by the average Bankruptcy Law practitioner varies widely but the overall average of non-bankruptcy work done by a bankruptcy attorney is 30%, the same as in the last survey two years ago.



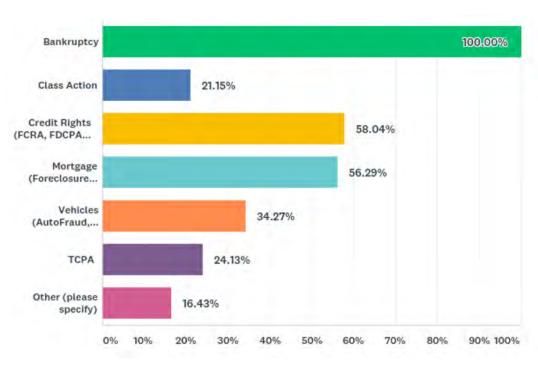
The Percentage of Time Devoted to Consumer Law Matters Outside of Bankruptcy Law

An analysis of just consumer bankruptcy attorneys reveals that the largest of the niche areas of Consumer Law for bankruptcy attorneys, 58%, is the area of Credit Rights. The second most common supplemental work for bankruptcy attorneys, 56.29%, continues to be Mortgage work.

These two niche areas fit well with Bankruptcy work, while providing hourly rate work that, in many instances, may be higher than the effective hourly rate for only consuumer bankruptcy matters. Remaining notable in the Survey Report data is the difference in median hourly rates for the different niche areas in the field of Consumer

Law that can be observed in the tables appearing in Sections 3 of this Survey Report.

In short an attorney handling consumer bankruptcy cases, where some fees may be externally monitored, often handles associated financial and other problems of clients and may have the opportunity to do so at higher hourly rates than they charge for their bankruptcy work.

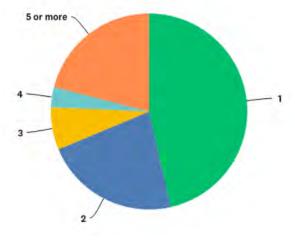


Areas of Consumer Law Regularly Handled

While certain economies of scale may be achievable in a larger practice with five or more attorneys, the area of Consumer Bankruptcy Law has historically been dominated by small law firm practitioners of four or fewer. This long-term trend continues.

As it appears to be across all niche areas of Consumer Law, sole practitioners still dominate the niche area of Consumer Bankruptcy Law by a wide margin. 46.5% of all survey participants reported being solo



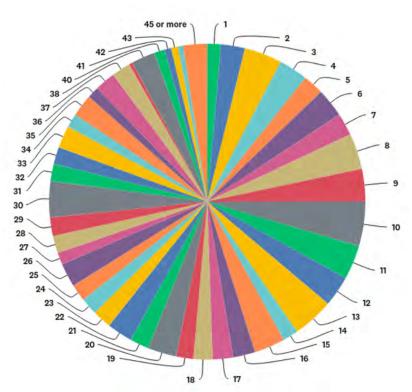


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practitioners, which nevertheless is a significant decrease from the last survey when it was 57.4%. When two and three and four member firms are added, small firms who primarily practice Bankruptcy Law make up 79.02% of all Consumer Bankruptcy Law firms, down significantly from the last survey when it was 87.6%. On the other hand, the percentage of large firms (5 or more attorneys) has increased to 20.98%, from 12.4% of Bankruptcy Law firms have 5 or more attorneys.

In such a small firm circumstance, law office economics are often more important to the practitioner than they may be to large law firms who may count on a larger and more varied client base for its necessary financial support. Consumer Bankruptcy Law has always meant dealing with a different kind of clientele than typical large law firm practices, and often involves a one-time attorney-client relationship necessitated by a single legal problem.

#### Years Practicing Law



The average years of experience level who attorneys predominantly practice Consumer Bankruptcy Law is 19.72 years and just over 20.45% of all attorneys have been in practice in this niche area for more than 32 years. At the opposite end of the spectrum, 29.55% of all Bankruptcy attorneys have been in practice for 10 or fewer years. In general, the Consumer Bankruptcy Bar's median age is getting younger.

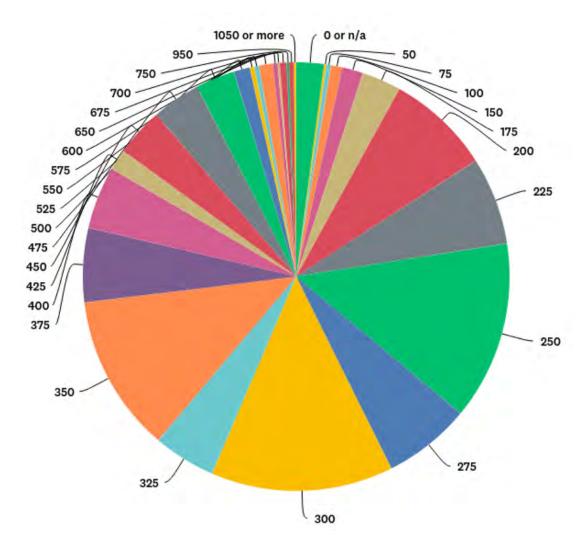
12.77% of all Bankruptcy attorneys have been in practice 5 years or less.

In this survey period Ohio was the state with the greatest raw quantity of survey

participation and the state with the largest percentage of senior Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorneys, with North Carolina and California tied in second place.

Only 15 bankruptcy attorneys in the entire survey have 45 or more years of practice, with most senior attorneys practicing in New Mexico, New York and Ohio.

#### Standard Hourly Billable Rate



Disregarding all other factors, the national average hourly rate for the typical Bankruptcy Law attorney in the United States is \$316 (up slightly from \$305 in the last survey) while the median attorney hourly rate is \$300 (same as in last survey).

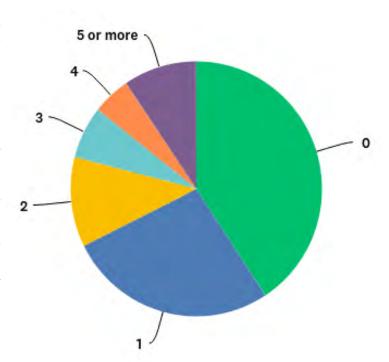
The median 25% Attorney hourly rate (the point at which 25% of all survey participants reported an hourly rate lower than this number) is \$233, down slightly

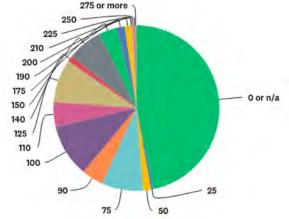
from the \$250 reported from the last survey.

The median 75% attorney hourly rate is \$381 while the number in the last survey was \$350. The median 95% attorney hourly rate is \$519, up considerable from the last survey where it was only \$475. At the upper quartile, where bankruptcy attorneys have an hourly rate above \$525, New York attorneys hold 25.93% of the upper quartile, followed by California and Washington D.C., which together make up half of the bankruptcy attorneys who are in the upper quartile of earners.

Number of Full or Part Time Paralegals per Law Firm

It might be expected that small firms would be more likely to take full advantage of the potential profit and costeffectiveness of paralegal support. While the majority do so, 40.73% of Bankruptcy Law attorneys choose to work with no paralegal support at all and another 26.92% only employ one paralegal. Overall, the median number of paralegals employed by the average Bankruptcy Law attorney is only one paralegal, the same as in the last survey.





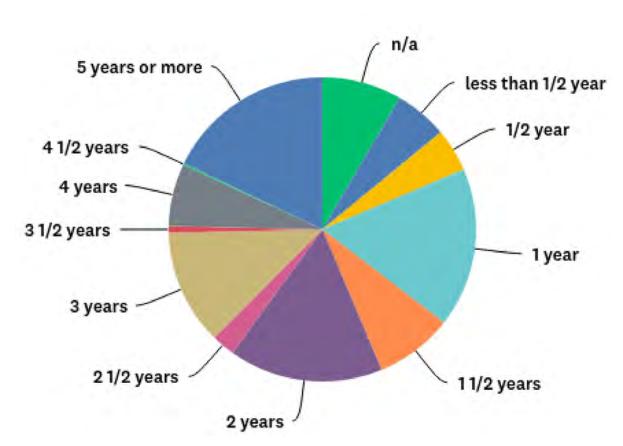
The average Bankruptcy Law paralegal hourly billable rate nationally is \$103, considerably more than the paralegal average of \$84 for all niche areas of Consumer Law combined.

The current median Consumer

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Bankruptcy Law paralegal hourly rate is \$96, while in all niche areas of Consumer Law it is only \$90. Only 5% of all Bankruptcy Law paralegals bill their time at \$175 or higher.

The median point at which consumer bankruptcy attorneys raised their hourly rate is 28 months. 29.58% of all Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorneys raised their hourly rates during the last 12 months. Fully 27.67% of all Consumer Bankruptcy attorneys have not raised their hourly rate in the last 3 or more years and 19.46% have not raised their hourly rate for 5 or more years, which is higher than the percentage of all other niche areas of Consumer Law combined (15.1%).

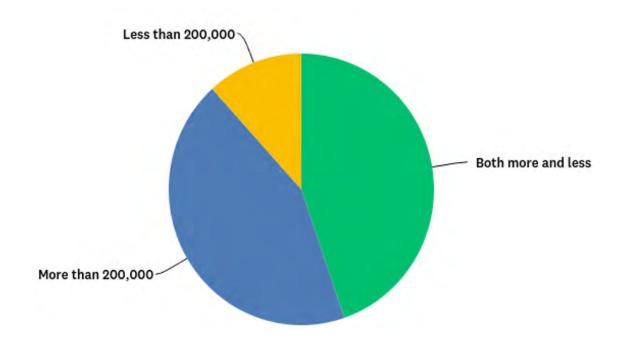


How Long Ago the Billable Hourly Rate Was Changed

Of all brackets in the Experience Variable Table for years in practice, for Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorneys who have been practicing 45 years or more bracket, 53.8% of the attorneys have not raised their hourly rate for at least five or more years. That characteristic is historically observable in at least the last ten years of Survey

Reports covering all niche areas of Consumer Law.

Do You Regularly Practice in a Metropolitan Area of More than 200,000 Persons or less than 200,000 Persons?



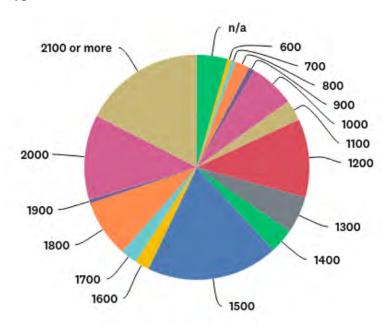
43.53% of all Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorneys report that they practice law in a greater metropolitan area of 200,000 persons or more, while only 11.71% reported their practice to be in a non-metropolitan, rural area. 44.76 reported their regular practice to involve both types of population densities, a substantial increase from the last survey when it was only 20.7%. Quantitatively, the practice of Bankruptcy Law continues to be primarily a greater metropolitan practice with a large portion of bankruptcy attorneys serving both metropolitan and non-metropolitan markets at the same time.

While the majority of Consumer Bankruptcy attorneys handle both Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 cases, 18.27% of attorneys handling Chapter 7 cases do not handle Chapter 13 cases and 12.61% of attorneys handling Chapter 13 cases do not handle Chapter 7 cases.

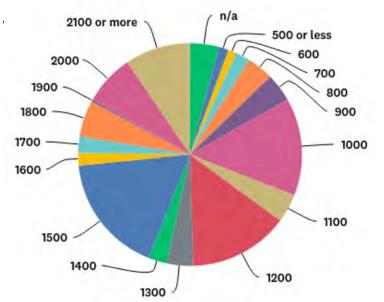
What follows next in this national summary is an analysis of survey responses for Chapter 7 questions in the national survey which is then followed by an analysis of national survey responses for Chapter 13 questions in the survey.

#### Chapter 7 Attorneys National Summary Profile Data

Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors



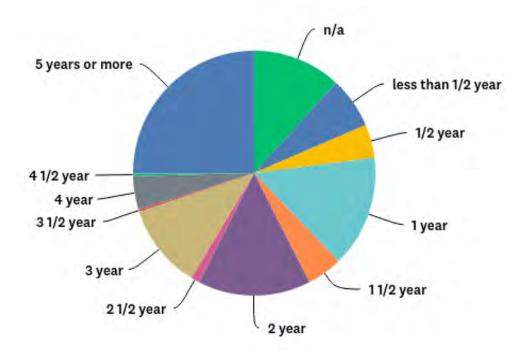
The average is \$1,528 while the median is \$1,500. Note that 29.59% of Chapter 7 attorneys charge \$2,000 or more.



The average is \$1,337 while the median is \$1,300. Note that 16.81% of Chapter 7 attorneys charge \$2,000 or more.

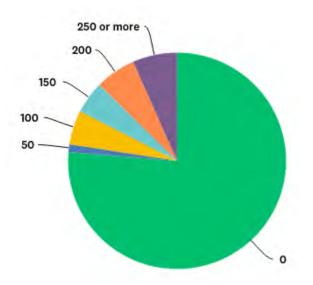
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Time since Last Change to Typical Chapter 7 Fee



On average, the typical Consumer Bankruptcy attorney handling Chapter 7 cases changed their fee amount 30.36 months ago, while the median is 26.4 months. However, 27.58% have not changed their fee amount in at least the last 5 years.

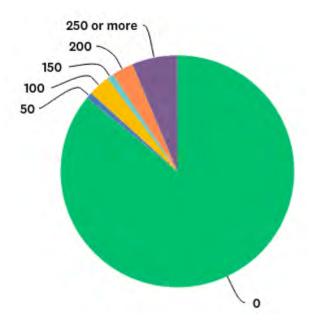
### Additional Fee Charged for Reaffirmations



Of those attorneys who do charge for reaffirmations, the median fee is \$200 while the average is \$175. Only 6.61% of all Chapter 7 attorneys charge \$250 or more for reaffirmations.

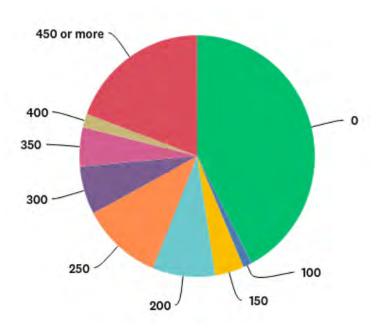
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### Additional Fee Charged for Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions



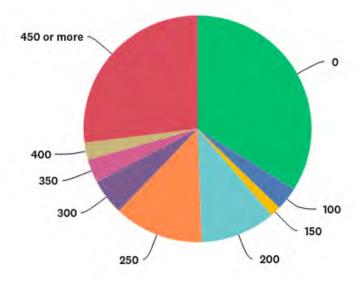
While 85.89% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for exemption planning or out-of-state exemptions, 6.31% charge \$250 or more, and the average charge is \$188.

#### Additional Fee Charged for Motions to Redeem



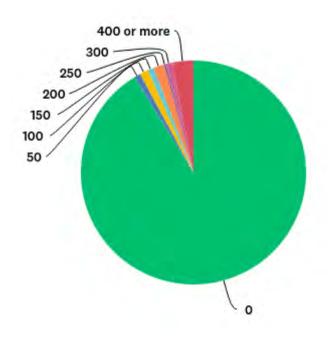
42.32% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for motions to redeem, but Of those who do receive an added fee the average charge is \$319. However it should be noted that of those who charge for motions to redeem, 33.5% of them charge \$450 or more.

#### Additional Fee Charged for Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens



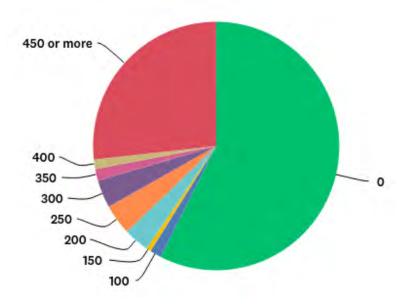
33.94% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for motions to avoid judgment liens, but Of those who do receive an added fee the average charge is \$328. However it should be noted that of those who charge for motions to avoid judgment liens, 40.8% of them charge \$450 or more.

Additional Fee Charged for Non-filing Spouses



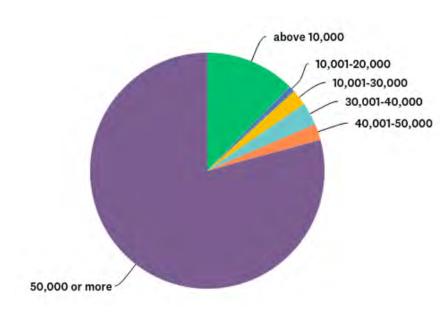
91.24% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for non-filing spouses, but Of those who do receive an added fee the average charge is \$247. However it should be noted that of those who charge for non-filing spouses, 34.4% of them charge \$400 or more.

### Additional Fee Charged for Tax Dischargability



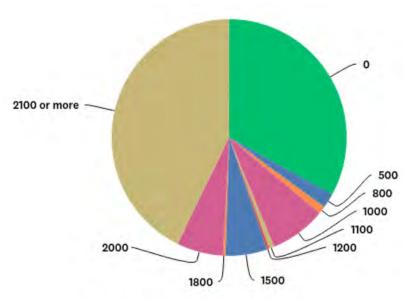
57.45% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for non-filing spouses, but Of those who do receive an added fee the average charge is \$377. However it should be noted that of those who charge for tax dischargability, 26.75% of them charge \$450 or more.

### Amount of Dischargeable Debt at Which Additional Fees Are Charged



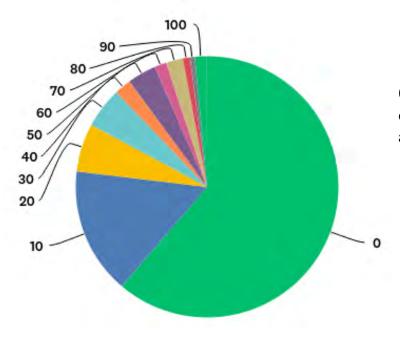
79.20% of Chapter 7 lawyers charge additional fees when dischargable debt is \$50,000 or more.

### Additional Fee Charged for Student Loan Discharge



33% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not charge for student loan discharge, but 42.76% charge \$2,100 or more.

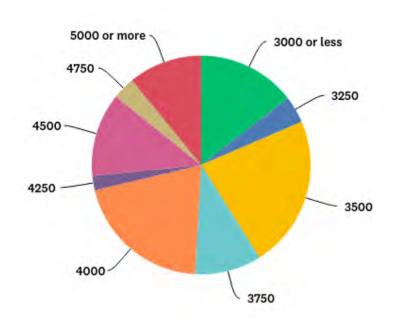
Percent of Cases Handled on Hourly Rate Basis



61.24% of Chapter 7 lawyers do not handle their cases on an hourly rate basis.

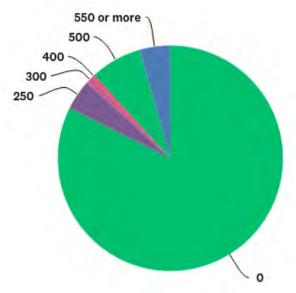
### Chapter 13 Attorneys National Summary Profile Data

### Presumptive Base Fee



The average presumptive base fee nationwide is \$3,888 and the median is \$3,750.

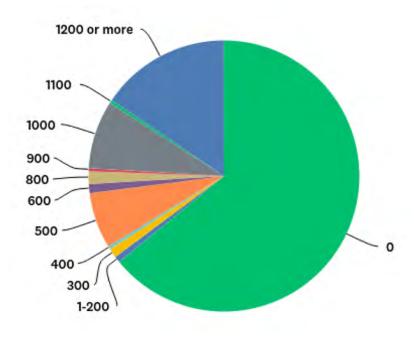
#### Additional Amount Allowed for above Median Debtors



For 82.35% of Chapter 13 attorneys no additional fee is allowed for above Median debtors. Where it is allowed, 66% of the attorneys charge \$500 or more.

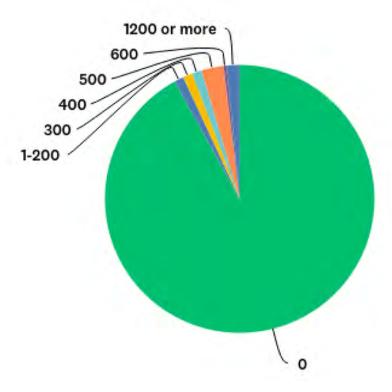
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#### Additional Amount Allowed for a Business Case



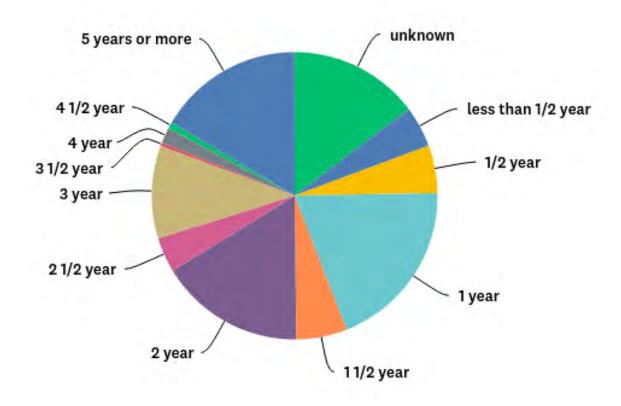
While 64.07% of Chapter 13 attorneys reported that they received no additional fee for a business case, 15.56% reported receiving \$1,200 or more.

Additional Amount Allowed for a Certified Board Specialist



While 91.98% of Chapter 13 attorneys reported that they received no additional fee for Certified Board Specialist status, \$1,200 was reported by just 1.53%.

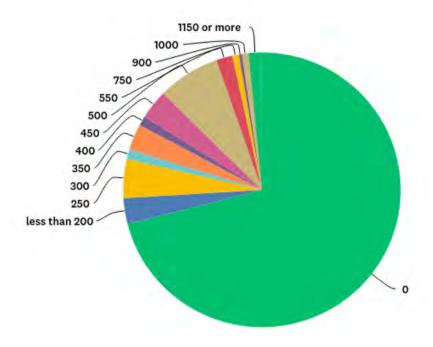
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On average, the typical Consumer Bankruptcy attorney handling Chapter 13 cases changed their fee amount 22.98 months ago compared to the 30.36 months ago when the average attorney in Chapter 7 cases changed their typical fee.

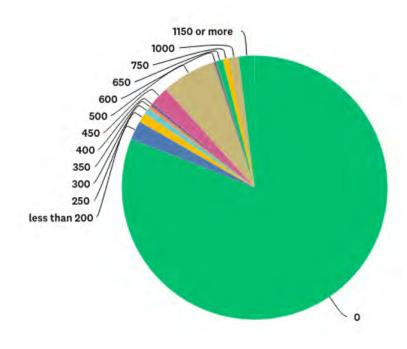
The Chapter 13 median for change to the presumptive fee was 24 months compared to 26.4 months for Chapter 7 attorneys. That may, in part, explain why only 16.49% of Chapter 13 attorneys have not changed their fee in at least the last 5 years.

#### Additional Fee Allowed for Motions to Extend Stay



While 70.99% of Chapter 13 attorneys obtain no added fee for motions to extend the stay, of those that do the median is \$492. Just 3.43% of attorneys report receiving \$750 or more.

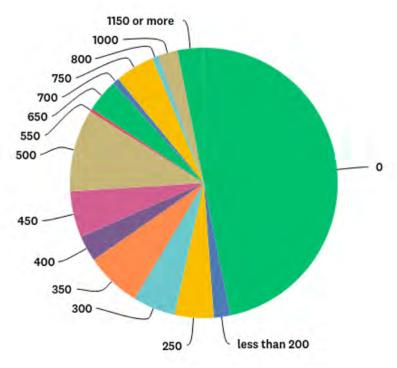
Additional Fee Allowed for a Contested Confirmation Hearing



81.01% of Chapter 13 attorneys receive no additional fee for a contested confirmation hearing. Of those that do receive an additional fee, the median is \$463. Just 3.88% of attorneys report receiving \$750 or more.

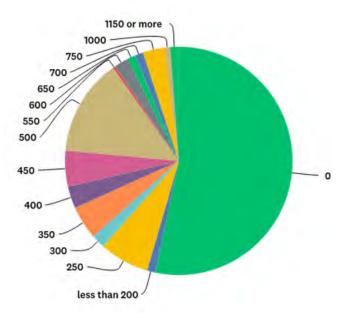
United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

### Additional Fee Allowed for a Motion to Modify



46.85% of Chapter 13 attorneys receive no additional fee for a motion to modify. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$450 and 11.02% report receiving \$750 or more.

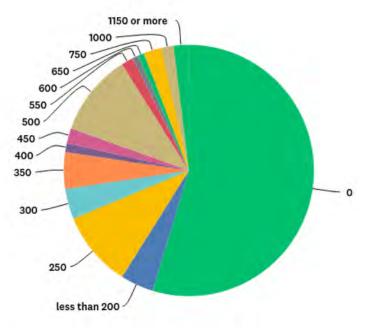
#### Additional Fee Allowed for Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay



53.33% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is received for defending a motion for relief from stay. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$463. Only 5.1% receive \$750 or more.

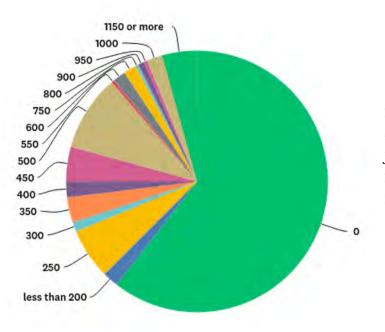
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#### Additional Fee Allowed for Defense of a Motion to Dismiss



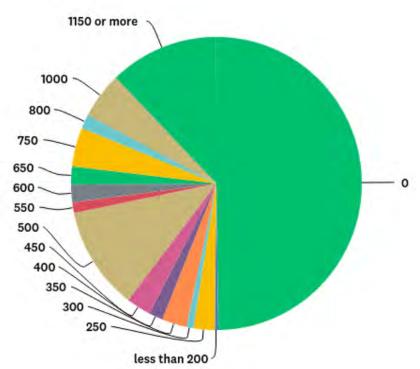
54.69% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for defense of a motion to dismiss. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$375. Only 5.85% receive \$750 or more.

### Additional Fee Allowed for a Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien



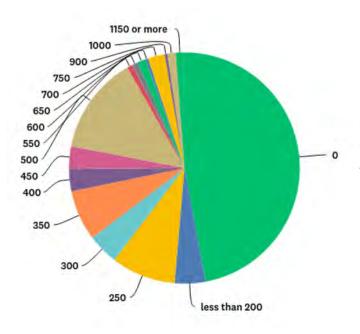
60.55% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for a motion to avoid a judgment lien. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$458. 9.37% receive \$750 or more.

### Additional Fee Allowed for a Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage



49.8% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for a motion or adversary proceeding to strip a mortgage. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$600. 23.14% receive \$750 or more and of that amount 12.16% receive \$1,150 or more.

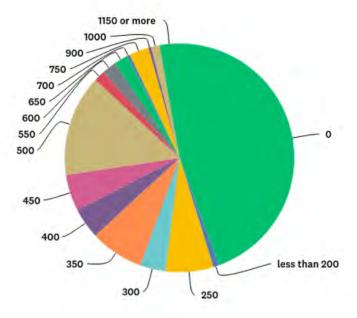
#### Additional Fee Allowed for a Motion to Incur Debt



47.06% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for a motion to incur debt. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$413. Only 5.1% receive \$750 or more and of that amount a mere 1.18% receive \$1.150 or more.

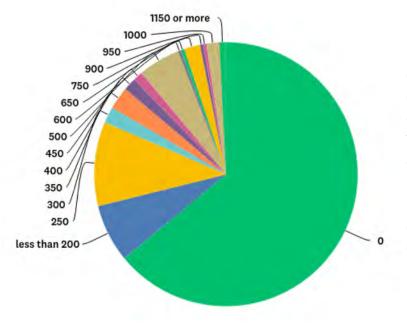
United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

### Additional Fee Allowed for a Motion to Buy or Sell Property



44.44% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for a motion to buy or sell property. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$494. Only 7.15% receive \$750 or more and of that amount 2.78% receive \$1,150 or more.

### Additional Fee Allowed for an Objection to Claim



64.03% of Chapter 13 attorneys report no additional fee is allowed for an objection to a claim. Of those who do receive an added fee, the median is \$306. Only 5.15% receive \$750 or more and of that amount 0.79% receive \$1,150 or more.

#### Conclusions

Small law firms of four or fewer attorneys, and particularly solo attorneys, have historically dominated the practice of Bankruptcy Law and still continue to do so.

Large Consumer Law firms tend to charge higher hourly rates than small firms in most instances and the same has proven true in Consumer Bankruptcy Law practices.

Most bankruptcy attorneys supplement their practice with other Consumer Law work, particularly in the niche areas of Credit Rights and Mortgage work.

The number of paralegals employed by the average Consumer Bankruptcy Law firm, like the practice of Bankruptcy Law itself, may be tied to the economy but many bankruptcy attorneys operate in a solo practice with no paralegal support, regardless of the profit or cost-effectiveness of the support a paralegal often may provide.

Quantitatively, there are about as many Consumer Bankruptcy Law attorneys with less than five years of practice experience as there are with more than 40 years of experience and survey participants represent a wide cross section of years in practice.

Attorneys who have been in practice the longest tend to hold their hourly rates level for the longest Period of time but the first signs have appeared that this decadelong trend is coming to an end.

# National Summary Profile Table

# Explanation of Tables

Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	The average number of attorneys in a law firm.
Median Years in Practice	The median number of years that all attorneys in this state have been in practice.
Primary Practice Area	The area comprising the largest percentage of the practice.
Secondary Practice Area	The largest practice area outside of Consumer Law.
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	The average number resulting from all survey responses in this state.
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	The median number, expressed in months.
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	Not including "0" or "n/a" responses, expressed in dollars.
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	Expressed in dollars. Note that this is not the median.
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	25% of all survey responses are below this number, expressed in dollars.
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	Half of all survey responses are above this number and half below, expressed in dollars.
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	75% of all survey responses are below this number, expressed in dollars.
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	5% of all survey responses are above this number, expressed in dollars.
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	Half of all survey responses in metropolitan areas of the state are above this number and half are below

Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	Half of all survey responses in non- metropolitan areas of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below

#### Median Rates for Practice Areas in Consumer Law

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points

are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Class Action Case For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases

For all attorneys handling this specific niche area of Consumer Law, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

Median Rate for Attorneys Handling Other Cases For all attorneys handling a niche area of Consumer Law not defined in the preceding six areas, the 25% Median, Median and 95% Median points are provided

## National Profile Table

572 Attorneys Reporting Data on 665 Paralegals	National Survey Result Last Survey	National Survey Result This Survey
Firm Size (Average)	1.9	2.3
Median Years in Practice	20.0	18.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.5	1.36
Median Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.0	1.0
Last Time Rate Change Occurred (months) (Average)	24.8	26.58
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	103	104
Median Billable Paralegal Rate	96	105
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	305	316
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300	300
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250	233
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350	388
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475	519
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250	300

### National Median Rates for Practice Areas Table

	National Survey Median Last Survey	National Survey Median this Survey
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	300	300
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	425	350
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	350	375
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	350	375
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	350	350
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	375	350
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	350	300

## National Bankruptcy Law Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Bankruptcy Law	National Attorney Hourly Rate Average Last Survey	National Attorney Median Hourly Rate This Survey
<1	300	150
1-3	270	250
3-5	263	250
6-10	290	275
11-15	283	300
16-20	312	300
21-25	339	300
26-30	315	300
31-35	306	350

36-40	321	350
41-44	325	300
45+	-	475

## $National\ Small\ Bankruptcy\ Law\ Firm\ Size\ Variable\ Table$

Years in Practice	National Attorney Hourly Rate Average Last Survey	National Attorney Median Hourly Rate This Survey
<1	300	150
1-3	260	250
3-5	250	238
6-10	285	275
11-15	279	300
16-20	305	300
21-25	332	300
26-30	315	300
31-35	301	325
36-40	317	338
41-44	308	300
45+	-	450

# National Large Bankruptcy Law Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	National Attorney Hourly Rate Average Last Survey	National Attorney Median Hourly Rate This Survey
<1	265	163
1-3	250	238
3-5	283	250
6-10	330	275
11-15	300	350
16-20	345	375
21-25	500	350
26-30	510	400
31-35	331	363
36-40	344	375
41-44	650	713
45+	-	1050

# 3. State Bankruptcy Law Summary Tables

# Explanation of Tables

[State Name]*	An asterisk (*) following the name of a state indicates the Bankruptcy Law practice quantity of data for this state was statistically insufficient. Only survey results from the Consumer Law Survey Report are inserted in lieu of bankruptcy-only data.	
Firm Size	The average number of attorneys in a law firm.	
Median Years in Practice	The median number of years that all attorneys in this state have been in practice.	
Primary Practice Area	The area comprising the largest percentage of the practice.	
Secondary Practice Area	The largest practice area outside of the stated Primary Practice Area.	
Median Number of Paralegals in Firm	The median number resulting from all survey responses in this state.	
Last Time Rate Change Occurred (months)	The median number, expressed in months.	
Median Billable Paralegal Rate	Expressed in dollars.	
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	Expressed in dollars. Note that this is not the median.	
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	25% of all survey responses are below this number, expressed in dollars.	
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	Half of all survey responses are above this number and half below, expressed in dollars.	

75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	75% of all survey responses are below this number, expressed in dollars.
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	5% of all survey responses are above this number, expressed in dollars.
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	Half of all survey responses in metropolitan areas of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	Half of all survey responses in non- metropolitan areas of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	Half of all survey responses in this area of the state are above this number and half are below

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors			
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors			
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees			
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis			
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months			

## Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	
Motions to Redeem	
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	
Non-filing Spouses	
Tax Dischargability	
Student Loan Discharge	

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee			
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months			

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	
A Business Case	
Certified Board Specialist	
Motions to Extend Stay	
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	
A Motion to Modify	
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	
A Motion to Incur Debt	
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	
An Objection to Claim	

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Alabama

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.89
Median Years in Practice	26.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy Law
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.84
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	18.0
Median Billable Paralegal Rate	63
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	253
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	288
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	225

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	800	1,100	1,800
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	500	1,000	1,500
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	24	48
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	15	20

## Additional Fee Charged for:

Reaffirmations		138	150
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		100	100
Motions to Redeem		200	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		200	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability		415	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	4,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	12	>60

## Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	250	500
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	<200	300
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	250	350
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	250	350
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	<200	350
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	350	600
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	<200	350
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	350	500
An Objection to Claim	0	250	250

## Alaska\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.63
Median Years in Practice	23.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Personal Injury
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.06
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	35.28
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	68
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	413
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	338
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	325

### **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	200	250	375
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	275	338	500
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	300	350	494
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	275	325	400
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	294	338	475
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	125	250	500
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	250	325	400

## Arizona

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.17
Median Years in Practice	17.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.83
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	22.98
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	148
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	333
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	375

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	1,500	1,800
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,500	>2,100
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	36	>60
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	20

## Additional Fee Charged for:

Reaffirmations		0	0
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		0	0
Motions to Redeem		200	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		200	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability		>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	0	0

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	-	<3,000	=
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	24	36

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	1-200	-	-
Certified Board Specialist	0	-	-
Motions to Extend Stay	250	-	-
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	450	-	-
A Motion to Modify	250	-	-
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	250	-	-
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	<200	-	-
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	250	-	-
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	250	-	-
A Motion to Incur Debt	300	-	-
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	300	-	-
An Objection to Claim	250	-	-

## Arkansas

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.95
Median Years in Practice	11.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.52
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	28.26
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	111
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	242
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	194
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	225
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	225
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	225

## Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	175
3-5	188
6-10	213
11-15	250
16-20	275
21-25	275
26-30	300
31-35	325
36-40	338
41-44	363
45+	375

### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	150
1-3	163
3-5	175
6-10	225
11-15	225
16-20	275
21-25	275
26-30	263
31-35	256
36-40	275
41-44	300
45+	313

# Large Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	163
1-3	175
3-5	225
6-10	238
11-15	250
16-20	313
21-25	338
26-30	350
31-35	363
36-40	350
41-44	350
45+	350

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	800	1,000	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	700	1,000	1,500
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	12	>60
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	10

Additional Fee Charged for:

Reaffirmations	0	100	100
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	0
Motions to Redeem	0	0	0
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	100	100
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	0	0
Student Loan Discharge	0	0	0

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,250	3,500	3,500
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	18	24	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	500	500
A Business Case	500	500	1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	250
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	250	250
A Motion to Modify	<200	300	350
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	250	350	400
Defense Of a Motion to Dismiss	<200	250	300
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	250	250	300
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	250	500
A Motion to Incur Debt	250	300	300
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	250	300	500
An Objection to Claim	<200	<200	250

## California

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.97
Median Years in Practice	20.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.08
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	23.16
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	161
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	399
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	331
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	613
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	388
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	375

## Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	225
1-3	286
3-5	300
6-10	307 350
11-15	406 363
16-20	422 438
21-25	513
26-30	525
31-35	538
36-40	563
41-44	575
45+	575

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	300
1-3	325
3-5	333
6-10	350
11-15	350
16-20	450
21-25	525
26-30	533
31-35	550
36-40	550
41-44	600
45+	631

# Large Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	208
1-3	260
3-5	322
6-10	433
11-15	300
16-20	595
21-25	500
26-30	550
31-35	716
36-40	413
41-44	624
45+	719

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	2,050	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	500	1,750	>2,100
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	18	>60
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	80

Additional Fee Charged for:

Reaffirmations	0	225	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	230	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	>450	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	>450	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	320	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	27	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	350	400
A Business Case	0	1,000	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	500	>1,150
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	450	650
A Motion to Modify	0	650	750
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	600	>1,150
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	463	>1,150
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	750	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	775	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	550	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	450	1,000

## Colorado

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.5
Median Years in Practice	27.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.94
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	36.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	116
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	313
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

## Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	200
3-5	250
6-10	275
11-15	300
16-20	325
21-25	325
26-30	350
31-35	325
36-40	313
41-44	322
45+	403

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	700	1,500	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	700	1,200	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	10-20	40-50	>50
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	50
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	36	>60

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	200	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	200	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	250	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	350	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	200	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	350	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	1,500	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,750	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	12	24

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	0	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	250	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	<200	1,000
A Motion to Modify	0	750	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	500	1,000
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	500	1,000
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	500	1,000
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	1,000	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	350	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	250	500
An Objection to Claim	0	250	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Connecticut

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.8
Median Years in Practice	9.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.20
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	34.5
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	135
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	370
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	431
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	469
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,000	1,500	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	600	1,000	1,500
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	25	30
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	>60	>60	>60

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	100	100
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	100	100
Motions to Redeem	0	200	250
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	200	250	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	225	>450
Student Loan Discharge	500	2,000	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	4,500
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	12	12

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	250	500
A Business Case	0	1,100	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	250	250
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	250	500
A Motion to Modify	0	250	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	250	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	250	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	250	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	250	500
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	250	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	250	500
An Objection to Claim	0	125	250

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## $Delaware^*\\$

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.33
Median Years in Practice	15.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.25
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	32.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	80
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	538
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	313

### **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	275	313	400
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	275	363	675
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	250	300	400
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	263	313	400
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	275	325	400
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	275	325	400
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	350	400	480

## District of Columbia

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.2
Median Years in Practice	24.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.1
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	27.6
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	134
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	550
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	813
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	1050
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	475
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	488
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of DC	588
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of DC	475
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of DC	425
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of DC	500
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of DC	588

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	1,850	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,750	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>30	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	40
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	27	>60

#### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	0
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	125	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	200	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	400	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	1,500	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	4,500	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	21	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	150	500
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	250	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	375	750
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	250	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	0
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	250	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	750	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	750	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	250	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" or zero in median calculations>1,150 "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Florida

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.96
Median Years in Practice	16.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.25
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	36.7
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	107
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	352
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	425
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	650
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	275
3-5	300
6-10	350
11-15	400
16-20	450
21-25	475
26-30	500
31-35	500
36-40	475
41 -44	475
45+	475

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	213
3-5	225
6-10	350
11-15	375
16-20	388
21-25	400
26-30	400
31-35	375
36-40	375
41-44	450
45+	450

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,000	1,800	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	600	1,800	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	30
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	24	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	213	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	213	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	250	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	275	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	50	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	425	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	4,500	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	18	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	450	550
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	450	>1,150
A Motion to Modify	0	475	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	475	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	450	850	>1,150
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	475	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage		663	750
A Motion to Incur Debt		475	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	475	500
An Objection to Claim	0	<200	250

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

# Georgia\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.08
Median Years in Practice	16.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.16
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	19.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	100
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	336
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	575
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	368
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	363
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	388
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	338

## **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	275	338	450
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	350	450	700
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	363	675
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	300	575
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	300	350	575
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	325	375	700
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	275	300	350

## Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	250
3-5	275
6-10	275
11-15	375
16-20	400
21-25	400
26-30	425
31-35	433
36-40	350
41-44	300
45+	500

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	200
3-5	250
6-10	275
11-15	363
16-20	475
21-25	450
26-30	400
31-35	350
36-40	300
41+	400

# Large Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	200
3-5	213
6-10	275
11-15	338
16-20	375
21-25	425
26-30	425
31-35	450
36-40	444
41+	488

## Hawaii\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.4
Median Years in Practice	17.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.27
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	24.78
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	118
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	312
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	238
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	308
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	600
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	313

### **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	283	350	408
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	238	275	500
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	238	263	600
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	217	250	375
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	225	250	350
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	238	313	600
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	225	263	350

## Idaho\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.53
Median Years in Practice	10.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.27
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	19.3
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	110
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	262
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	313
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	250

## **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	212	225	263
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	250	275	425
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	225	263	425
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	225	275	425
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	225	275	425
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	225	250	425
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	275	313	350

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	150
1-3	175
3-5	200
6-10	225
11-15	250
16-20	363
21-25	350
26-30	275
31-35	308
36-40	317
41+	275

## Illinois

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.95
Median Years in Practice	19.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.59
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	21.3
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	136
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	334
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	288
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	388
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	700
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

## Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	275
1-3	288
3-5	300
6-10	350
11-15	363
16-20	375
21-25	400
26-30	425
31-35	425
36-40	500
41-44	525
45+	525

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	275
1-3	300
3-5	338
6-10	363
11-15	388
16-20	375
21-25	400
26-30	425
31-35	425
36-40	450
41- 44	450
45+	450

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,500	2,000	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,500	2,000	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>40k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	70	100
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	18	21	24

#### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	>250	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	>250	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	225	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	250	400
Non-filing Spouses	0	200	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	30	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	24	42	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	>550	>550
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	750	750
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	650	650
A Motion to Modify	0	500	1,000
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	450	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	450	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	500	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	750	1,000
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	500	500
An Objection to Claim	0	250	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Indiana

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.17
Median Years in Practice	18.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Real Estate
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.0
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	33.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	83
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	283
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	363
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	313
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	275

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	900	1,350	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	800	950	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	70	70
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	15	36

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	0
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	50	50
Motions to Redeem	0	325	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	200	200
Non-filing Spouses	0	50	50
Tax Dischargability	0	100	100
Student Loan Discharge	1,000	1,975	2,000

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	4,000	4,500
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	18	36	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	>550	>550
A Business Case	0	1,000	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	500	>1,200
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	500	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	500	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	500	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	<200	<200
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	500	500
An Objection to Claim	0	500	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Iowa

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.822.18
Median Years in Practice	2512.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Employment Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.36.41
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	19.62
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	125
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	277
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,100	2,000	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,100	1,500	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	30-40k	40-50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	10
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	18	24

#### Additional Fee Charged For:

D = (C:	0	100	150
Reaffirmations	U	100	150
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	50	200
Motions to Redeem	0	200	250
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	250	300
Non-filing Spouses	0	150	150
Tax Dischargability	0	>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	<3,000	<3,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	12	24

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	1-200	250	300
Motions to Extend Stay	300	325	350
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	750	750	750
A Motion to Modify	700	725	750
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	600	600	600
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	750	750	750
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	350	375	400
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	500	550	600
A Motion to Incur Debt	350	475	600
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	350	475	600
An Objection to Claim	350	475	600

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Kansas

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.5
Median Years in Practice	14.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.0
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	32.4
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	113
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	338
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	313
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	313

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,500	2,000	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,500	1,900	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	70
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	33	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	150	150
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	200	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	300	350
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	250	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	150	150
Tax Dischargability	0	400	>450
Student Loan Discharge	2,000	>2,100	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,250	3,500
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	24	36	48

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	500	500
A Business Case	0	0	0
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	<200
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	<200	<200
A Motion to Modify	< 200	350	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	< 200	250	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	<200	250	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	250	350
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	800	1,000
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	250	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	250	500
An Objection to Claim	<200	250	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

# Kentucky

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.14
Median Years in Practice	13.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.57
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	24.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	110
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	264
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	363
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	213
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	231
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	200
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	338

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,000	1,300	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	900	1,200	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	80
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	18	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	50	50
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	0
Motions to Redeem	0	100	150
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	100	200
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	250	>250
Student Loan Discharge	500	2,000	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	3,750
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	36	48

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	0	0
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	500	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	500	500
A Motion to Modify	0	500	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	500	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	500	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	500	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	500
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	500	500
An Objection to Claim	0	500	500

## Louisiana

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.0
Median Years in Practice	15.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.33
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	28.98
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	90
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	<3,000	<3,000	>5,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,300	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	80
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	36	>60

#### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	200	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	>250	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	350	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	350	400	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	>400	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	200	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

# Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	18	48	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	350	400	450
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	300	350	350
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	300	350	350
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	350	350
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	350	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	350	413	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	350	413	500
An Objection to Claim	0	250	250

## Maine

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.0
Median Years in Practice	12.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	3.0
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	36.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	126
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	221
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	188
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	200
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	200
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	200
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	200
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	200
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	200
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	200

# Maryland

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.8
Median Years in Practice	20.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.0
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	16.2
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	107
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	383
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	600
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	400

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	1,650	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,200	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	10
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	12	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations		>250	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		>250	>250
Motions to Redeem		300	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	225	>450
Non-filing Spouses		0	0
Tax Dischargability		250	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	4,500	4,750
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	18	36

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Above Median Debtors		>550	>550
A Business Case	0	1,000	1,000
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	500	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	0
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	0
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	0
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	0	0
A Motion to Incur Debt 0 0		0	0
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	0
An Objection to Claim	0	0	0

# Massachusetts

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.92
Median Years in Practice	13.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.72
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	17.52
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	129
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	334
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	700
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	150
1-3	163
3-5	18
6-10	288
11-15	300
16-20	350
21-25	350
26-30	400
31-35	450
36-40	475
41-44	475
45+	500

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	150
1-3	163
3-5	200
6-10	275
11-15	313
16-20	338
21-25	350
26-30	375
31-35	375
36-40	350
41-44	500
45+	500

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,300	1.750	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors		1,300	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees		>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	70
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	18	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations		200	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		>250	>250
Motions to Redeem		300	>250
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		250	>450
Non-filing Spouses		>400	>400
Tax Dischargability		325	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	24	36	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors		500	>550
A Business Case		500	>1,200
	U		
Certified Board Specialist	0	600	600
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	<200
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	600	600
A Motion to Modify	0	300	300
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay		350	350
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss		350	350
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien		350	350
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	600	600
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	350	350
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	350	350
An Objection to Claim	0	350	350

# Michigan

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.96
Median Years in Practice	17.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.48
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.72
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	128
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	273
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	212
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	463
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	263
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	225
3-5	237
6-10	250
11-15	250
16-20	263
21-25	263
26-30	325
31-35	383
36-40	400
41-44	400
45+	375

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	225
3-5	275
6-10	275
11-15	288
16-20	300
21-25	300
26-30	350
31-35	383
36-40	400
41-44	400
45+	375

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	800	1,200	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	700	1,000	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	90
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	48	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	100	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	200	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	250	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	350	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	100	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	250	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	1,500	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	3,750
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	36	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

114411101141111111111111111111111111111			
Above Median Debtors	0	>5500	>550
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	400	500
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	250
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	<200	500
A Motion to Modify	0	< 200	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	363	600
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	363	600
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	500	600
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	650	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	250	650
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property			
An Objection to Claim			

## Minnesota

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.50
Median Years in Practice	23.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.38
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	31.5
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	125
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	338
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	425
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,300	1,700	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,200	1,600	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	20
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	24	30

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	>250	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	0
Motions to Redeem	0	>450	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	250	350	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	>2,100	>2,100	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	<3,000	<3,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	24	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	500	500	500
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	>1,200	>1,200
Motions to Extend Stay	0	>1,150	>1,150
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	>1,150	>1,150
A Motion to Modify	0	>1.150	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	500	575	750
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	500	575	750
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	>1,150	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	>1,150	>1,150	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	0
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	0
An Objection to Claim	500	575	750

# Mississippi

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.55
Median Years in Practice	17.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.82
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	22.92
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	77
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	264
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	600	1,350	1,800
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	600	1,050	1,500
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	30-	>50k	>50k
Are Charged	40k		
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	0	0
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	36	>60

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	0
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	100	100
Motions to Redeem	0	100	250
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	100	250
Non-filing Spouses	0	200	200
Tax Dischargability	0	350	350
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

# Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,50	3,500	3,500
	0		
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	12	24

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

114411111141111111111111111111111111111			
Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	0	0
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	0	0
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	0
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	0
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	0
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	0	0
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	0
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	0
An Objection to Claim	0	0	0

## Missouri

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.18
Median Years in Practice	24.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.64
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	26.7
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	90
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	241
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	250

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	250
3-5	250
6-10	275
11-15	300
16-20	325
21-25	338
26-30	350
31-35	350
36-40	388
41-44	375
45+	375

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	800	1,650	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	700	1,650	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	42	100
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	48	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	150	150
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	200	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	300	350
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	250	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	150	150
Tax Dischargability	0	150	350
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,050	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	4,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	24	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	500	500
A Business Case	0	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	<200	<200
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	<200	<200
A Motion to Modify	0	350	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	<200	250
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	<200	250
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	<200	250
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	1,000
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	<200	250
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property			
An Objection to Claim			

## Montana\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.47
Median Years in Practice	20.0
Primary Practice Area	Personal Injury
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.2
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	24.78
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	93
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	225
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	213
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	275

### **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	226	275	313
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	200	300	425
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	225	250	425
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	175	250	400
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	188	338	400
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	275	325	408
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	175	300	400

### Nebraska\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.22
Median Years in Practice	17.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Employment Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.44
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	29.64
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	125
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	312
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	388
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	675
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

## **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	140	150	300

Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	275	325	413
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	225	325	400
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	188	275	400
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	200	275	425
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	200	275	400
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	200	275	350

# Nevada\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.33
Median Years in Practice	23.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.22
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	15.66
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	140
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	404
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	525
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	600
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	450
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	450

### **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	275	475	525
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	400	500	625
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	288	450	613
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	413	513
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	450	500	550
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	450	500	575
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	350	450	525

# New Hampshire\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.33
Median Years in Practice	34.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Personal Injury
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.56
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	26
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	117
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	358
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	550
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	388
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	388
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	298	350	438
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	213	388	525
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	356	500
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	350	425
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	350	450	550
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	250	425	525
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	225	335	500

# New Jersey

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.93
Median Years in Practice	16.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.57
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	23.58
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	97
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	341
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	338
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	525
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	300
3-5	325
6-10	350
11-15	338
16-20	350
21-25	400
26-30	500
31-35	575
36-40	500
41-44	550
45+	500

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	300
1-3	350
3-5	350
6-10	388
11-15	388
16-20	375
21-25	400
26-30	525
31-35	550
36-40	550
41-44	500
45+	550

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,500	1,800	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,200	1,600	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	20-35k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	10
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	6	6

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	100	175	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	0
Motions to Redeem	0	250	300
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	150	250
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	4,000	4,500
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	9	12

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

		_	_
Above Median Debtors	0	>550	>550
A Business Case	0	1,000	1,000
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	250	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	250	500
A Motion to Modify	0	250	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	250	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	250	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	250	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	1,000
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	375	750
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	375	750
An Objection to Claim	0	250	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations

<sup>&</sup>quot;<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## New Mexico\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.0
Median Years in Practice	18.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.16
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.72
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	90
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	269
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	200
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	469
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	238

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	200	350	406
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	175	250	406
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	200	225	469
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	200	220	475
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	175	300	475
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	200	225	475
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	250	350	400

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,500	1,600	1,700
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,200	1,350	1,500
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	-	-	-
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	15	30
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	>60	>60	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	100	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	100	200
Motions to Redeem	0	0	0
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	250	250	250
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	225	>450
Student Loan Discharge	>2,100	>2,100	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	<3,000	<3,00
			0
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	>60	>60	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	>550	>550	>550
A Business Case	>1,200	>1,200	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	-	-	-
Motions to Extend Stay	-	-	-
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	-	-	-
A Motion to Modify	-	-	-
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	-	-	-
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	-	-	-
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	800	800	800
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	-	-	-
A Motion to Incur Debt	-	-	-
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	-	-	-
An Objection to Claim	-	-	-

## New York

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.8
Median Years in Practice	20.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.37
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	133
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	399
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	600
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	475
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	450
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	300
3-5	350
6-10	375
11-15	400
16-20	425
21-25	438
26-30	475
31-35	488
36-40	475
41-44	550
45+	550

#### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	300
1-3	313
3-5	325
6-10	325
11-15	350
16-20	375
21-25	375
26-30	375
31-35	450
36-40	475
41-44	550
45+	550

# Large Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	300
3-5	375
6-10	375
11-15	400
16-20	450
21-25	513
26-30	550
31-35	600
36-40	575
41-44	600
45+	600

#### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

Low	Median	High
1,200	1,700	>2,100
800	1,500	>2,100
>10k	10-30k	>50k
0	15	100
6		>60
	1,200 800 >10k	1,200 1,700 800 1,500 >10k 10-30k 0 15

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	100	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	125	>250
Motions to Redeem		200	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		300	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	50	50
Tax Dischargability		250	>450
Student Loan Discharge		1,000	>2,100
			0

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,750	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	24	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	200	>550
A Business Case	0	1,000	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	500	>1,150
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Modify	0	500	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay		250	400
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	275	400
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	500	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage		250	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt		500	>1,150
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	500	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	500	1,000

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## North Carolina

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.32
Median Years in Practice	20.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.89
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.28
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	126
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	308
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	394
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	650
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	313
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	225
1-3	250
3-5	263
6-10	275
11-15	300
16-20	300
21-25	325
26-30	350
31-35	350
36-40	400
41-44	500
45+	550

#### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	238
3-5	250
6-10	250
11-15	275
16-20	300
21-25	325
26-30	350
31-35	375
36-40	400
41-44	500
45+	550

#### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,500	1,800	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,500	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	30-40k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	70
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	24	36	48

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	150	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	125	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	225	400
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	150	350
Non-filing Spouses	0	150	300
Tax Dischargability	0	350	450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	4,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	18	24	30

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	400	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	125	250
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	0
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	0
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	0
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	350	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	175	350
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	175	350
An Objection to Claim	0	125	250

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## North Dakota\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.08
Median Years in Practice	25.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Personal Injury
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.77
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.48
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	132
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	381
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	306
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	525
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	400
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	400

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	350	500	525
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	306	400	494
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	375	500
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	400	506
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	325	400	500
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	306	400	500
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	250	400	433

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	250
3-5	288
6-10	338
11-15	350
16-20	388
21-25	400
26-30	400
31-35	338
36-40	350
41+	500

## Ohio

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.99
Median Years in Practice	11.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.85
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	26.22
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	123
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	329
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	244
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	394
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	313
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	325

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	250
3-5	275
6-10	350
11-15	363
16-20	375
21-25	400
26-30	388
31-35	400
36-40	363
41-44	338
45+	325

#### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	250
1-3	250
3-5	275
6-10	375
11-15	425
16-20	438
21-25	425
26-30	450
31-35	461
36-40	325
41-44	338
45+	325

# Large Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	238
1-3	250
3-5	250
6-10	325
11-15	350
16-20	438-
21-25	450
26-30	475
31-35	450
36-40	388
41-44	400
45+	450

#### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	900	1,200	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	800	1,200	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees		>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	0	100
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	24	>60

#### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations		125	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		175	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	200	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		250	>450
Non-filing Spouses		0	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	200	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	1,750	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	6	24	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	>550
A Business Case	0	0	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	>1,200
Motions to Extend Stay	0	300	750
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	650	>1,150
A Motion to Modify	0	350	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	350	>1,150
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	300	>1,150
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	250	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	425	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	350	1,000
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	500	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	250	>1,150

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Oklahoma\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.21
Median Years in Practice	13.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.29
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	21.42
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	119
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	329
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	212
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	288
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	438
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	625
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	288
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	250

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	169	200	275
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	275	363	624
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	244	325	538
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	175	263	475
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	244	325	475
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	338	475	650
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	200	275	463

# Oregon\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.12
Median Years in Practice	16.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.41
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	24.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	99
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	365
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	256
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	600
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	338
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	425
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	413

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	275	375	425
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	256	425	600
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	338	425
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	269	350	400
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	238	275	325
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	275	325	375
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	263	350	550

# Pennsylvania

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.33
Median Years in Practice	15.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.53
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	19.62
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	141
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	353
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	225
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	700
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	338
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	425
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	238
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	250
3-5	250
6-10	275
11-15	388
16-20	400
21-25	400
26-30	425
31-35	438
36-40	500
41-44	575
45+	700

#### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	200
1-3	250
3-5	250
6-10	275
11-15	350
16-20	388
21-25	388
26-30	400
31-35	400
36-40	475
41-44	500
45+	700

#### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	1,500	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,100	1,300	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>50k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	50
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	36	>60

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	>250
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	>250
Motions to Redeem	0	225	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	125	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	150	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	1,000	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,600	4,000	4,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	36	>60

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors		0	>550
A Business Case	0	500	1,000
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	500
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify		500	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay		0	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	250
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	250
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	350
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	250
An Objection to Claim	0	0	250

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Puerto Rico\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.21
Median Years in Practice	28.5
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.71
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	43.26
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	90
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	450
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	375

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	175	250	325
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	200	375	400
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	400	450
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	237	350	406
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	200	225	225
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	225	388	413
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	219	331	370

## Rhode Island\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.74
Median Years in Practice	25.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.16
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	30.0
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	130
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	365
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	500
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	550
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	325

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	125	225	300
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	275	500	550
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	244	300	550
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	300	425
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	263	325	550
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	250	500	550
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	250	325	550

## South Carolina

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.33
Median Years in Practice	29.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	2.22
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	27.36
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	110
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	284
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	232
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	342
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	400
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	338
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	288

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,000	2,000	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	< 500	1,800	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	10
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	36	>60

## Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations		150	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		100	100
Motions to Redeem		150	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens		217	250
Non-filing Spouses		0	0
Tax Dischargability		>450	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	2,000	>2,100

#### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	3,750	4,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	6	18

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors		0	0
A Business Case	00	500	1,100
Certified Board Specialist	0	500	500
Motions to Extend Stay	0	500	900
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	500	500
A Motion to Modify	0	300	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay		400	700
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss		500	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien		450	500
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage		750	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt		450	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	300	450	600
An Objection to Claim	0	225	300

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## South Dakota\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	3.13
Median Years in Practice	15.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Criminal Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.7
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	32.4
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	90
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	295
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	194
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	381
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	506
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	288
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	350

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	200	250	375
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	200	250	400
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	200	263	500
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	200	263	500
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	200	250	500
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	194	250	500
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	200	250	400

## Tennessee

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.79
Median Years in Practice	23.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.71
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	22.26
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	84
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	259
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	219
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	306
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	250

#### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	600	1,200	2,000
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	600	1,100	2,000
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	0	70
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	18	>60

Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	50
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	0
Motions to Redeem	0	0	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	0	300
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	0	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	0	2,000

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	3,750	3,750
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	9	48

#### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	0
A Business Case	0	0	0
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	0
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	0	500
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	500
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	500
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	0
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	0	750
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	500
An Objection to Claim	0	0	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Texas

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.38
Median Years in Practice	22.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.44
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	28.86
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	128
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	383
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	425
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	700
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	375
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	400
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	438
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	413

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	225
1-3	225
3-5	292
6-10	275
11-15	375
16-20	375
21-25	400
26-30	388
31-35	450
36-40	475
41-44	500
45+	488

### Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	225
1-3	225
3-5	292
6-10	325
11-15	375
16-20	375
21-25	388
26-30	363
31-35	450
36-40	450
41+	500

## Utah

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.47
Median Years in Practice	12.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	3.0
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	21.18
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	97
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	243
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	175
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	250
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	213
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	175
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	188
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	175
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	225

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	225 150
1-3	225 150
3-5	292 175
6-10	275 238
11-15	375 250
16-20	375 300
21-25	400 313
26-30	388 350
31-35	450 350
36-40	475 363
41-44	350
45+	400

### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	700	1,500	1,800
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	700	1,200	1,600
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	>10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	0	10
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	12	36	>60

### Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions		0	100
Motions to Redeem	0	300	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	>450	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	200
Tax Dischargability	0	300	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	0	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	3,750	4,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	<6	12	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	250	250	500
A Business Case	0	100	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	>1,200
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	500
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	0
A Motion to Modify	0	500	750
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	450	750
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	500	750
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	600	900
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	500	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	500	900
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	650	900
An Objection to Claim	0	0	750

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

## Vermont\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.91
Median Years in Practice	29.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.19
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	40.56
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	87
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	313
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	256
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	433
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	288
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	288
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	275

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	225	288	525
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	269	338	525
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	244	275	531
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	256	275	525
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	257	275	513
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	256	288	425
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	244	275	513

# Virginia

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	1.75
Median Years in Practice	25.0
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.58
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	28.5
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	109
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	333
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	280
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	475
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	375

### Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,200	1,700	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	1,000	1,500	>2,100
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	10	40
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	6	12	48

Additional Fee Charged For:

	_	_	
Reaffirmations	0	0	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	100
Motions to Redeem	0	300	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	0	350	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	0
Tax Dischargability	0	300	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

## Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	3,500	>5,000	>5,000
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	12	12	36

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	500
A Business Case	0	0	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	750
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	750
A Motion to Modify	0	0	750
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	750
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	750
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	625	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	750
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	600	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	0	500

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

# Virgin Islands U.S.\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.87
Median Years in Practice	25.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Personal Injury
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.6
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	36.42
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	83
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	288
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	175
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	325
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	375
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	425
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	325
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	325
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	325

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	250	300	575
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	325	350	640
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	325	350	640
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	325	350	640
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	225	275	350
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	150	225	325
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	150	238	450

# Washington

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.54
Median Years in Practice	14.5
Primary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.92
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	25.5
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	139
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	295
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	233
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	275
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	362
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	413
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	275
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	263
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	275
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	250
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	275

# Experience Variable Table

Years Practicing Consumer Law	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	250
3-5	250
6-10	288
11-15	338
16-20	350
21-25	375
26-30	375
31-35	400
36-40	350
41-44	375
45+	375

## Small Firm Size Variable Table

Years in Practice	Average Attorney Hourly Rate
<1	175
1-3	200
3-5	275
6-10	275
11-15	375
16-20	400
21-25	400
26-30	413
31-35	388
36-40	375
41-44	400
45+	400

## Profile Table of Chapter 7 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with above Median Debtors	1,000	1,500	>2,100
Typical Fee for a Ch. 7 with below Median Debtors	< 500	1,200	1,700
Amount of Dischargable Debt at Which Additional Fees	10k	>50k	>50k
Are Charged			
Percent of Cases Handled on an Hourly Rate Basis	0	20	80
Time since Last Change to Ch. 7 Fee in Months	<6	24	>60

## Additional Fee Charged For:

Reaffirmations	0	0	200
Exemption Planning or Out-of-state Exemptions	0	0	100
Motions to Redeem	0	250	>450
Motions to Avoid Judgment Liens	100	400	>450
Non-filing Spouses	0	0	>400
Tax Dischargability	0	0	>450
Student Loan Discharge	0	>2,100	>2,100

### Profile Table of Chapter 13 Attorneys

	Low	Median	High
Presumptive Base Fee	<3,000	3,500	4,750
Time since Last Change to Presumptive Fee in Months	30	48	>60

### Additional Amount Allowed for:

Above Median Debtors	0	0	>550
A Business Case	0	0	>1,200
Certified Board Specialist	0	0	0
Motions to Extend Stay	0	0	450
A Contested Confirmation Hearing	0	0	1,000
A Motion to Modify	0	0	>1,150
Defense of a Motion for Relief from Stay	0	0	>1,150
Defense of a Motion to Dismiss	0	0	>1,150
A Motion to Avoid a Judgment Lien	0	0	>1,150
A Motion or Adversary Proceeding to Strip Mortgage	0	0	>1,150
A Motion to Incur Debt	0	0	500
A Motion to Buy or Sell Property	0	0	>1,150
An Objection to Claim	0	0	>1,150

Note: Median does not include "n/a" in median calculations calculations "<" means less than; ">" means greater than.

# West Virginia\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.67
Median Years in Practice	23.5
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	General Practice
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.06
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	27.66
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	113
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	328
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	244
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	456
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	550
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	313
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	300
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	300
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	300

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	231	250	400
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	283	375	463
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	256	325	550
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	250	338	425
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	244	300	450
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	256	350	425
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	175	313	450

## Wisconsin\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.29
Median Years in Practice	14.0
Primary Practice Area	Consumer Law
Secondary Practice Area	Bankruptcy
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	1.26
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	14.52
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	125
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	351
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	250
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	350
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	425
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	550
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	350
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	375
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	350
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	4375
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	400

## Median Rates for Practice Areas

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	213	238	500
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	350	400	600
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	275	350	575
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	225	263	425
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	250	363	450
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	350	425	600
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	350	433	450

# Wyoming\*

	This Survey
Average Number of Attorneys in Firm	2.2
Median Years in Practice	23.0
Primary Practice Area	General Practice
Secondary Practice Area	Domestic Relations
Average Number of Paralegals in Firm	.90
Last Time Attorney Rate Changed (Average in Months)	46.8
Average Billable Paralegal Rate	118
Average Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	235
25% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	187
Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	238
75% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	288
95% Median Attorney Rate for All Attorneys	300
Median Metropolitan Attorney Rate	238
Median Non-Metropolitan Attorney Rate	225
Median Attorney Rate in Northern Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Southern Area of State	238
Median Attorney Rate in Eastern Area of State	238
Median Attorney Rate in Western Area of State	225
Median Attorney Rate in Central Area of State	225

## **Median Rates for Practice Areas**

	25% Median	Median	95% Median
Attorneys Handling Bankruptcy Cases	181	238	294
Attorneys Handling Class Action Cases	-	-	-
Attorneys Handling Credit Rights Cases	188	238	294
Attorneys Handling Mortgage Cases	175	238	294
Attorneys Handling Vehicle Cases	188	238	300
Attorneys Handling TCPA Cases	175	275	300
Attorneys Handling Other Cases	188	250	312

## 4. State Area Bankruptcy Law Billable Data Table

States not listed below did not have sufficient data to report the Profile Tables of a Chapter 7 and/or Chapter 13 practitioner. Data was provided and/or obtained for this survey from and on behalf of the following quantity of attorneys and paralegals.

State	Billable Attorney Data Count	Billable Paralegal Data Count
Alabama	36	35
Arizona	48	29
Arkansas	62	11
California	73	40
Colorado	24	15
Connecticut	9	1
District of Columbia	22	11
Florida	47	30
Illinois	65	35
Indiana	17	12
Iowa	20	4
Kansas	15	14
Kentucky	22	18
Louisiana	18	11
Maine	18	18
Maryland	18	10
Massachusetts	21	9
Michigan	49	12
Minnesota	12	3
Mississippi	17	20
Missouri	24	18
New Jersey	41	22

New Mexico	19	17
New York	98	48
North Carolina	65	53
Ohio	200	124
Pennsylvania	35	23
Tennessee	39	22
Texas	38	23
Utah	29	45
Virginia	21	19
Washington	61	22
Wyoming	22	9
	1305	783

### 5. Cases Employing Use of Prior Editions of this Survey Report

Since 1999, when the data in this Survey Report first began to be compiled, the Survey Report has undergone various revisions in both substance and data analysis. Each revision resulted in further refinement of both the data as gathered and the final Survey Report as published. As various Courts considered previously published Survey Reports in years past, refinements in data gathering, analysis, and reporting were made periodically to both achieve improvements and address judicial commentary and criticism.

This continued refinement resulted in a major revision in data gathering, analysis, and reporting that occurred with the publishing of the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2013-2014. That edition of the Survey Report added detailed reporting on specific geocentric data from 29 states and the District of Columbia and 46 greater metropolitan areas.

This new 2017-2018 edition of the Survey Report takes the analyses one step further by broadening the coverage to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands along with 98 high-population greater metropolitan areas.

While Courts frequently look to an attorney's normal hourly rate in making fee determinations, Courts may also consider market rates in the attorney's community, either in the absence of a stated hourly rate for the fee applicant or in addition to it.

Reasonable hourly rates are to be determined on the basis of market rates for services rendered. An "attorney's actual billing rate for comparable work is 'presumptively appropriate' to use as the market rate." *People Who Care v. Rockford Bd. of Educ. Sch. Dist. No. 205*, 90 F.3d 1307, 1310 (7th Cir., 1996). If the attorney has no actual billing rate, "the court should look to the next best evidence — the rate charged by lawyers in the community of 'reasonably comparable skill, experience and reputation.'" Id. (quoting *Blum v. Stenson*, 465 U.S. 886, 892, 895 n. 11 (1984)); see also *Spegon v. The Catholic Bishop of Chi.*, 175 F.3d 544, 556 (7th Cir., 1999).

Sierra Club v. Jackson, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 137217, \*5, 2013 WL 5409036 (W.D. Wis., Sept. 25, 2013)

Nevertheless,

"the attorney's actual billing rate for comparable work is presumptively appropriate to use as the market rate." 175 F.3d at 555 (quoting *People Who Care v. Rockford Bd. Of*  Educ., School Dist. No. 205, 90 F.3d 1307, 1310 (7th Cir. 1996)). [\*\*10] Only if an attorney is unable to provide evidence of her actual billing rates should a district court look to other evidence, including "rates similar experienced attorneys in the community charge paying clients for similar work." 175 F.3d at 555. Therefore, SIU is correct in asserting that looking to the southern Illinois legal community's rate would have been appropriate, but only if the district court provided an adequate reason to use a rate other than the presumed market rate, i.e., the appellants' market rate.

However, just because the proffered rate is higher than the local rate does not mean that a district court may freely adjust that rate downward. When a [\*744] local attorney has market rates that are higher than the local average,"[a] judge who departs from this presumptive rate must have some reason other than the ability to identify a different average rate in the community." Gusman, 986 F.2d at 1151. Similarly, if an out-of-town attorney has a higher hourly rate than local practitioners, district courts should defer to the out-of-town attorney's rate when calculating the lodestar amount, though if "local attorneys could do as well, and there is no other [\*\*11] reason to have them performed by the former, then the judge, in his discretion, might allow only an hourly rate which local attorneys would have charged for the same service."

Mathur v. Board of Trrustees of S. Ill. Univ., 317 F.3d 738, 743-744, 2003 U.S. App. LEXIS 1055, \*9-11, 90 Fair Empl. Prac. Cas. (BNA) 1537, 84 Empl. Prac. Dec. (CCH) P41, 400 (7th Cir. Ill., Jan. 24, 2003).

In looking at the market rates in the applicant's community, Courts frequently consider and use survey data in their decision-making involving fee disputes, finding it an economical and impartial means of determining contested fee issues.

When two metropolitan areas are near each other, their hourly rates may be found to be comparable. See, *Arana v. Monterey Fin. Servs.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46111, \*6, 2018 WL 1324269 (S.D. Cal., Apr. 5, 2018) ("Of all the hourly rate evidence submitted by the parties, the most relevant is the Consumer Fee Survey's data for first year Los Angeles, California consumer law attorneys. Of all the cities represented in the Consumer Fee Survey, Los Angeles is the one that's geographically closest to San Diego. The Court's independent research suggests that Los Angeles and San Diego rates are similar.....").

Some of the cases using the *U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report* when deciding attorney fee disputes in Consumer Law cases, include the following.

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*In re Sears*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124235, 2018 WL 4765679 (N.D. E.D., Ill., Sep. 13, 2018) (a class action case considering the Laffey Matrix, the National Law Journal Survey and the 2013-2014 U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey and using the median rate schedules for Chicago area survey data contained in the 2013-2014 Report in conjunction with both the Matrix and the NLJ survey).

Reid v. Unilever United States, Inc., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 75383, \*50, 2017 WL 3653318 (N.D. Ill., June 10, 2017) (a class action case finding the Laffey Matrix rates to be supported by the Chicago area survey data contained in the 2010-2011 Report; "However, because the Matrix rate recommended here is supported by the Chicago-specific rates contained in the Report, the Court concludes that it is reasonable.").

Crafton v. Law Firm of Jonathan B. Levine, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 29690, 2014 WL 907423 (E.D. Wis., Mar. 7, 2014) ("Several courts in this District have recognized the Fee Survey as a reliable resource in determining the reasonableness of an attorney's hourly rate, particularly in conjunction with consideration of counsel's experience. See Moreland v. Dorsey Thornton & Assocs., LLC, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 54487, 2011 WL 1980282, \*3 (E.D. Wis., May 20, 2011) (relying on counsel's website, which lists the attorney profiles, along with the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey in determining that the requested hourly rate was reasonable); House v. Shapiro & Price, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38322, 2011 WL 1219247 (E.D. Wis., Mar. 30, 2011) (same); Suleski v. Bryant Lafayette & Assocs., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55353, 2010 WL 1904968 (E.D. Wis., May 10, 2010) (same).")

Davis v. Hollins Law, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 2014 WL 2619651 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 12, 2014) ("Plaintiff also relies on the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report 2010-2011 \* \* \* The court has reviewed the methodology underlying the Survey, and finds it credible.").

Decker v. Transworld Systems, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78987, 2009 WL 2916819, N.D., Ill., Sept. 01, 2009 (finding results in the 2007 United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report to be supported by the Laffey Matrix).

Beach v. LVNV Funding, LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 162926, 2013 WL 6048989 (E.D. Wis., Nov. 15, 2013) ("... several courts in this District have recognized the Fee Survey as a reliable resource in determining the reasonableness of an attorney's hourly rate, particularly in conjunction with consideration of counsel's experience.").

*Dibish v. Ameriprise Fin. Servs.*, 2017 Pa. Dist. & Cnty. Dec. LEXIS 432, \*17-18 (Pa. C.P., Mar. 23, 2017) ("In setting Mr. Behrend's rate at \$350 per hour, I considered all of the materials [18] submitted by the parties. The most objective document, and therefore what I considered most important in my analysis, was the "United Sates Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report 2010-2011,".....).

6590426, at \*3 (D. Colo., Dec. 18, 2012) ("the Court finds that the average rates set forth in the [Consumer Law Attorney Fee] Survey are reasonable").

LaFountain, Jr v. Paul Benton Motors of North Carolina, LLC, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121631, 2010 WL 4457057 (E.D. NC, Nov. 5, 2010) (Senior U.S. District Judge James C. Fox specifically finds the U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report to be persuasive, after rejecting the National Law Journal's fee survey and the U.S. Attorney's Laffey Matrix as **un**persuasive in consumer law cases: "The court does, however, find the evidence in the *United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey* to be persuasive").

Ramirez v. N. Am. Asset Servs., LLC, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 54641 (C.D. Cal., Apr. 9, 2012) (stating that the argument opposing the *Survey* was "untethered" to reality in light of the *Survey* report's resulting data).

Lindenbaum v. NCO Fin. Sys., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78069, 2011 WL 2848748 (E.D. Pa., July 19, 2011) (using both the *U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report* and the U.S. Attorney's Laffey Matrix in determining a fee award).

Suleski v. Bryant Lafayette & Associates, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55353, 2010 WL 1904968 (E.D. Wis., May 10, 2010) ("However, the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2008-09 for the Midwest and California, see www.consumerlaw.org/feesurvey (last visited May 7, 2010), supports the reasonableness of the hourly rates sought by counsel in light of their experience").

Vahidy v. Transworld Systems, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78984, 2009 WL 2916825 (N.D. Ill., September 01, 2009) (finding results in the 2007 United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report to be "supported by the Laffey Matrix").

Bratton v. Thomas Law Firm PC, 943 F. Supp. 2d 897 (N.D. Ind. 2013) ("In Moore v. Midland Credit Mgmt., Inc., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176600, 2012 WL 6217597 (N.D. Ind. Dec. 12, 2012), this Court recently analyzed the applicability of both the Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report and the Laffey Matrix. [904] The Court found that the Report "provides a general range for billing rates that is useful as one factor in a court's multi-factor analysis.").

*Beach v. LVNV Funding, LLC*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 162926, 2013 WL 6048989 (E.D. Wis. Nov. 15, 2013). ("As Beach points out, several courts in this District have recognized the Fee Survey as a reliable resource in determining the reasonableness of an attorney's hourly rate, particularly in conjunction with consideration of counsel's experience.").

Cases Listed by State or Other Jurisdiction

A more comprehensive listing of cases using the *U.S. Consumer Law Attorney* Fee Survey Report when deciding attorney fee disputes in Consumer Law cases includes

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those on the following list.

#### Alabama

*Hicks v. City of Tuscaloosa*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 174579, 2016 WL 7029827 (N.D. Alabama, May 24, 2016) (considering 2010-2011 Survey Report in Discrimination under Family and Medical Leave Act case, granting \$154,192.50 in fees).

*Jordan v. City of Birmingham*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 183532, 2015 WL 12830455 (N.D. Alabama, Jun. 22, 2015) (considering 2010 - 2011 Survey Report, in EEOC case, requested fees of \$61,850 granted to Plaintiff as supported by Survey Report).

#### Arizona

Savage v. NIC, Inc., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 60311, 2010 WL 2347028 (D. Ariz., Jun. 9, 2010) ([year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, requested fees of \$17,442 granted).

Shelago v. Marshall & Ziolkowski Enterprise, LLC, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38940, 2009 WL 1097534 (D. Ariz., 2009., Apr. 21, 2009) ([year not stated] Survey Report in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$17,175 requested and granted).

#### California

*Warren v. Kia Motors America*, 2018 Cal. App. LEXIS 1144, 2018 WL 6520889 30 Cal.App.5th 24, 241 Cal.Rptr.3d 263 (C.A. 4th App Dist, Div. Two, Cal., Dec. 12, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Lemon Law, Vehicle Litigation case, trial court's reduction of lodestar calculation making fees proportionate to damages was reversed).

Medina v. South Coast Car Co., 15 Cal. App. 5th 671, 2017 Cal. App. LEXIS 820, 2017 WL 4247131 (C.A. 4th App Dist, Div. One, Cal., Sept 19, 2017) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in vehicle sales fraud case, \$128,004 granted and upheld on appeal).

*Hollandsworth v. McDowell*, 2015 WL 12830177 (Cal. Super., May 20, 2015) (2007 Survey Report, in vehicle warranty breach case, \$27,027 requested and granted).

#### California, C.D.

Liu v. BMW of North America, LLC, 2019 WL 4196061 (C.D., W.D., Cal. May 29, 2019) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Vehicle Warranty Law case, \$\$140,567 granted) (\$475 @ 12 Years; \$500 @ 43 Years; \$450 @ 14 Years; \$550 @ 26 Years).

Sayeed v. Cheatham Farms Master Homeowners' Ass'n, 2019 WL 1949028 (C.D. Cal., Apr. 16, 2019) ("in recent years, the majority [of district courts in California] have been willing to consider the Report's results as evidence of prevailing hourly rates in United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

FDCPA and Rosenthal Act cases.") (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights, Udap case, \$53,640 granted) (\$450 @ 26 Years).

Cunningham v Meridian Credit Group, LLC, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 23680, 2019 WL 643966 (C.D. Cal., Feb. 11, 2019) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Credit Rights, FDCPA case, \$8,410 granted) (\$300 @ 2 years; \$400 @ 4 years).

Castaneda v. Ocwen Loan Servicing, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 198852 (C.D. Cal., Nov. 21, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Mortgage, Credit Rights, FCRA, FDCPA case, \$77,418 granted) (movant cited two pages of excerpted fee survey without explanation of how they supported request and cited rates from Arizona instead of the relevant Los Angeles community; court used hourly rates requested by one movant and reduced the other movant 10% after using awards by movant and its own knowledge of the local legal market) (\$550 at 27 years; \$450 @ 8 years).

Carrion v Kirby Oldsmobile, Inc., 2018 WL 6137127 (D.D. Cal., Nov. 9, 2018) (objection to admission into evidence of *United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report* overruled; attorney performing paralegal duties in case awarded paralegal hourly rate) (2015-2016 Survey Report, Vehicle Warranty case, \$32,786.25 granted) (\$475 @ 21 Years; \$450 @ 21 Years; \$350 @ 8 Years; \$150 @ 15 Years for attorney performing paralegal duties).

Low-Iacovino v. Benefit Plan Committee of Nonbargained Program of AT&T Pension Benefit Plan, 2018 WL 6985241 (C.D. Cal., July 2, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in ERISA case, \$33,630 granted) (Survey Report helpful but evidence of comparable rates in comparable ERISA cases desired and used by Court in fee decision).

Townsend v. Yorkshire Acquisition Group, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 142429, 2018 WL 4006956 (C.D. Cal., May 7, 2018) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Credit Rights, FDCPA case, \$4,480 granted) (\$400 @ 3 Years; \$300 @ 1 Year).

*Wilson v Berryhill*, 2018 WL 6010320 (C.D. Cal., May 4, 2018) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social Security case, \$4,341 granted).

Benedict v. Fidelity Capital Holdings, Inc., 2016 WL 11518497 (C.C. Cal., June 9, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$14,820 granted) (\$650 @ 25 Years).

*Vardanyan v. CMRE Fin. Servs.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 183486(C.D. Cal., Feb. 11, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$18,303 granted).

*Ramirez v. N. Am. Asset Servs., LLC*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 54641, 2012 WL 1228086 (C.D. Cal., Apr. 9, 2012) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,126 requested and granted).

Krapf v. Nationwide Credit, Inc., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 116689, 2010 WL United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

4261444 (C.D. Cal., Oct. 21, 2010) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, hourly rates requested and approved, \$26,120 granted).

### California, E.D.

Flory v. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC, 2019 WL 2562632 (D. NJ, June 20, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$\$3,762.50 granted) (\$350 @ 25 Years).

*Uhl v. Colvin*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78779, 2016 WL 3361800 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 15, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security case, \$10,363 granted).

*Davis v. Hollins Law*, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 2014 WL 2619651 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 12, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, data-supported hourly rates used, \$35,813 granted).

### California, N.D.

Reenders v Premier Recovery Group, 2019 WL 2583595 (N.D. Cal., May 7, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$ 1,350 granted) (\$225 @ 2 Years).

Slotnick v. I.C.Q. Search and Recovery, 2018 WL 6258888 (C.D. Cal., Sept. 19, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$31,455 granted) ("The Court finds that the Attorney Fee Survey is an adequate means of establishing average billing rates for consumer protections attorneys in this forum" citing  $Ramirez\ v.\ N.\ Am.\ Asset\ Servs.\ LLC$ ) (\$400 @ 10 Years).

Bratton v. FCA US LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 180975, 2018 WL 5279581 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 22, 2018) ("A number of courts, including courts in this District, have also found that the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report may be used as evidence of prevailing rates.") (2015-2016 Survey Report, in vehicle warranty breach case, \$27,092 granted) (\$350 @ 16 Years; \$500 @ 15 Years; \$400 @ 15 Years; \$325 @ 11 Years; \$350 @ 5 Years; \$250 @ 4 Years).

Forkum v. Co-Operative Adjustment Bureau, Inc., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106912, 2014 WL 3827955 (N.D. Cal. Oakland Div., Aug. 4, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$21,097 granted) (initial motion denied without prejudice at 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 91148, 2014 WL 3101784).

Senah, Inc. v. Xi'an Forstar S&T Co, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72293, 2016 WL 3092099 (N.D. Cal., Jun. 2, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in breach of contract case, \$145,692 granted).

Klein v. Law Offices of D. Scott Carruthers, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 75269, 2015 WL 3626946 (N.D. Cal., Jun. 10, 2015) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

Rights case, \$4,886 granted).

*Hampton v. Colvin*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 53630, 2015 WL 1884313 (N.D. Cal., Apr. 23, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security case, \$3,741 granted).

*Brown v. Mandarich Law Group, LLP*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 47020, 2014 WL 1340211 (N.D. Cal., Apr. 2, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$7,485 granted).

Castro v. Commercial Recovery Sys., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33675 (N.D. Cal., Mar. 13, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,520 granted).

Stephenson v. Neutrogena Corporation, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 105099, 2013 WL 12310811 (N.D. Cal., Aug. 22, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Class Action case, \$433,333 granted).

*Chan v. Booska*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 109005 (N.D. Cal., Jul. 15, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$9,600 granted).

*Garcia v. Resurgent Capital Servs.*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 123889, 2012 WL 3778852 (N.D. Cal., Aug. 30, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$187,292 granted).

Ramirez v. North American Asset Services, LLC, 2012 WL 1228086 (C.D. Cal., Apr. 9, 2012) ([year not stated] Survey Report), in FDCPA, Credit Rights cases, \$2,521 granted).

#### California, S.D.

*Norris v. Saul*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 141318, 2019 WL 3935638 (S.D. Cal., August 20, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in EAJA case under 42 U.S.C. 406(b), \$10,000 granted).

Jackson v. Berryhill, 2019 WL 1470869 (S.D. Cal., Apr 3, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social Security case, \$24,700 granted).

*Cash v Berryhill*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 57694, 2019 WL 1469098 (S.D. Cal., Apr 3, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social Security case, \$21,224 granted).

Overton v. Berryhill, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 209766, 2018 WL 6523442 (S.D. Cal., Dec. 11, 2018) ("While Plaintiff has provided no evidence to support the reasonableness of the requested paralegal rate, despite it being his burden to do so, the Court looks to the [2015-2016] United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report ("Report") to determine the market rate for paralegals," adopting the reported \$100/hour San Diego paralegal median rate) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

Security case, \$200 @ 41 Years, \$9,004 granted).

Cole v. Mercantile Adjustment Bureau, LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 193511, 2018 WL 5920019 (S.D. Cal., Nov. 12, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$375 @ 7 years; \$375 @ 11 years; \$150 @ 1 Years, \$4,290 granted).

*Ulugalu v. Berryhill*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72442, 2018 WL 2012330 (S.D. Cal., Apr 30, 2018) (In the absence of evidence from the movant, "the Court looks to [the 2015-2016 Survey Report], adopting the reported \$100/hour San Diego paralegal median rate) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social Security case, \$6,136 granted).

*Arana v. Monterey Fin. Servs.*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46111, 2016 WL 1324269 (S.D. Cal., Apr. 4, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,450 granted).

Nguyen v. HOVG, LLC, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124019, 2015 WL 5476254 (S.D. Cal., Sept. 15, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$41,350 granted).

De La Torre v. Legal Recovery Law Office, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 128220, 2014 WL 4547035 (S.D. Cal., Sept. 12, 2014) ([year not stated] Survey Report, in Cal. Anti-Slapp Law case, \$6,321 granted).

*Verdun v. I.C. Sys.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 52238, 2014 WL 1456295 (S.D. Cal., Apr. 14, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,819 granted).

*Delalat v. Syndicated Office Sys.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 33756, 2014 WL 930162 (S.D. Cal., Jan. 28, 2014) (2010-2011, 2d Ed. Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$230,342 granted).

Crawford v. Dynamic Recovery Servs., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4057, 2014 WL 130458 (S.D. Cal., Jan. 10, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,496 granted).

*Breidenbach v. Experian*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 82093, 2013 WL 2631368 (S.D. Cal., Jun. 11, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$5,079 granted).

#### Colorado

*Harper v. Stellar Recovery, Inc.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154479, 2015 WL 7253239 (D. Colo., Nov. 16, 2015) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,390 granted).

Villanueva v. Account Discovery Systems, LLC, 77 F.Supp.3d 1058, 2014 U.S. United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

Dist. LEXIS 180001, 2015 WL 148965 (D. Colo., Dec. 12, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$1,385 granted).

*Crapnell v. Dillon Cos.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 96184, 2015 WL 4484469 (D. Colo., Jul. 22, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Sanctions case, \$2,100 granted).

*Gregg v. N.A.R.*, *Inc.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32017, 2014 WL 959412 (D. Colo., Mar. 12, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,694 granted).

Reichers v. Del. Asset Mgmt., LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 164981, 2013 WL 6096136 (D. Colo., Nov. 20, 2013) (rejecting Laffey Matrix, using Survey Report) ([Edition not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,085 granted).

Rodriguez v. Luchey & Mitchell Recovery Solutions, LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 164285, 2013 WL 6068458 (D. Colo., Nov. 18, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights, TCPA case, \$2,172 granted).

Andalam v. Trizetto Group, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 159656, 2013 WL 5952012 (D. Colo., Nov. 7, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Discovery Sanction case, requested hourly rates supported by Survey Report, \$2,500 granted).

*Bock v. APIM, LLC*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176648 (D. Colo., Nov. 7, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights, TCPA case, \$2,520 granted).

*Peterson-Hooks v. First Integral Recovery, LLC*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73907, 2013 WL 229544 (D. Colo., May 24, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,837 granted).

Scadden v. Weinberg, Stein & Associates, LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 57939, 2013 WL 1751294, at \*6 (D. Colo., Apr. 23, 2013) (rejecting Laffey Matrix, using Survey Report) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,862 granted).

Shock v. Vandenberg, Chase & Assocs. LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71751 (D. Colo., Mar. 18, 2013 ([year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,579 granted).

Lockmon v. Thomas F. Farrell, P.C., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 178661, 2012 WL 6590426, at \*3 (D. Colo., Dec. 18, 2012) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$1,179 granted).

Anderson v. Nat'l Credit Sys.,2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 134268 (D. Colo., Dec. 1, 2010) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,030 granted).

### Florida, M.D.

Robinson, et al v. National Credit Systems, Inc., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19953, 2019 WL 468580 (M.D. Fla., Fort Myers Div., Jan. 22, 2019) (\$425 @ 12 years, \$425 @ 9 years, \$100 Paralegal) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$31,896 granted).

Alvarado v. Featured Mediation, LLC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88022, 2017 WL 2480606 (M.D. Fla., Jun. 8, 2017) (\$350 @ 12 Years; \$250 @ 6 Years; Paralegal, \$100) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights, TCPA case, \$2,810 granted).

Santarlas v. Steube, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 383 (M.D. Fla., Tampa Div., Jan. 3, 2017) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Driver Privacy Protection Act case, \$40,362 granted) (\$400 @ 23 Years; \$140, Paralegal).

Lane v. Accredited Collection Agency, Inc., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58502, 2014 WL 1685677 (M.D. Fla., Apr. 25, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,725 granted).

*Seaman v. McGuigan*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 29270, 2013 WL 806610 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., Feb. 11, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,305 granted).

Renninger v. Phillips & Cohen Associates, Ltd, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 92736, 2010 WL 3259417 (M.D. Fla., Tampa Div., Aug. 18, 2010) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,379 granted).

### Florida, S.D.

Sandin v. United Collection Bureau, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71948, (S.D. Fla., Jul. 27, 2009), 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71945, 2009 WL 2500408 (S.D. Fla., Aug. 14, 2009) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,746 granted).

#### Georgia, M.D.

Hebert v. Wallet Recovery Ltd., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 57012, 2014 WL 1653490 (M.D. Ga., Apr. 24, 2014) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$15,256 granted).

#### Georgia, N.D.

Carter v. Debt Recovery Bureau, Inc., 2012 WL 13128943 (N.D. Ga., Atlanta Div., Sept. 28, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,279 granted).

Townsend v SRS and Associates, 2011 WL 13319492 (N.D. Ga., June 7, 2011) (2008-2009 Survey Report in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,036 granted).

#### Idaho

Lecoultre v. Takhar Collection Servs., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 96443, 2013 WL 3458072 (D. Idaho, Jul. 9, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,060 granted).

#### Illinois, N.D.

Rhone v. Med. Bus. Bureau, LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188433 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Apr. 27, 2018) (Court used current Survey Report to reduce movants' requested rates, noting a lack of evidence to exceed average rates in Survey Report) (2015-2016 Survey Report, FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$315 @ 2 years; \$415 @ 25 years; \$352 @ 3 years; granted \$38,549).

*In re Sears, Roebuck & Co. Front-Loading Washer Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 130505, 2018 WL 3707804 (N.D. E.D. Ill., August 3, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in MDL Warranty Class Action case, on remand Court sought out and applied current Survey Report to establish applicable hourly rates of \$500 top \$725 for appeal and fee motion in *In re Sears*, 867 F.3d 791, \$496,746 granted).

In re Sears, Roebuck and Co. Front-loading Washer Products Liability Litigation, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124235, 2016 WL 4765679 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Sept. 13, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in MDL Warranty Class Action case, Court sought out and applied current Survey Report to establish hourly rates, \$4,770,834 granted) (reversed and remanded with instructions to award fees of \$2,700,000, In re Sears, 867 F.3d 791, 2017 U.S. App. LEXIS 15034, CCH Prod. Liab. Rep. P20,130, 2017 WL 3470400) (Aug. 14, 2017).

Fricano v. LVNV Funding, LLC, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121654, 2015 WL 5331711 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Sept. 8, 2015) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$21,910 granted).

Reid v. Unilever United States, Inc., 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 75383, 2015 WL 3653318 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Jun. 10, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Warranty Class Action and Illinois Consumer Fraud Act case, \$1,503,285 granted).

Decker v. Transworld Systems, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78987, 2009 WL 2916819 (N.D. W.D. Ill., Sept. 1, 2009) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$1,625 granted).

Vahidy v. Transorld Systems, Inc., 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78984, 2009 WL 2916825 (N.D. W.D. Ill., Sept. 1, 2009) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$1,625 granted).

#### Illinois, S.D.

Anderson v. Specified Credit Ass'n, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 62410, 2011 WL 2414867 (S.D. Ill., Jun. 10, 2011) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,617 granted).

#### Indiana, N.D.

*Maloy v. Stucky*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 211571, 2018 WL 6600082 (N.D., Ind., Fort Wayne Div., Dec. 14, 2018) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights, Class Action case, \$25,000 granted) (\$318 @ 6 years; \$318 @ 7 years; \$263 @ 5 years; \$250 @ 1 year; \$250 @ 3 years).

*Bratton v. Thomas Law Firm PC*, 943 F. Supp. 2d 897, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 64080, 2013 WL 1891364 (N.D., Ind., Fort Wayne Div., May 3, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,012 granted).

*Moore v. Midland Credit Mgmt.*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176600, 2012 WL 6217597 (N.D. Ind., Dec. 12, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,940 granted).

#### Louisiana, M.D.

Alonso v. Westcoast Corp., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154866, 2017 WL 4176973 (M.D. LA, Sept. 21, 2017) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in Prompt Payment Act case, \$130,517 granted) (\$340 @ 33 years; \$300 @ 13 years).

#### Maine

Traci H. v. Berryhill, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 214988, 2018 WL 6716693 (Dist. Maine, Dec. 21, 2018) (finding requested paralegal rate not out of line with Survey Report) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Social Security case, \$6,730 granted) (\$198 @ 41 Years) (\$198 @ 4 Years). (request for paralegal rate of \$110, Court adopted paralegal rate of \$105 instead of Survey Report rate of \$110, with note by Court that Survey Report lacked detail on quantity of paralegal data per state) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report provides attorney and paralegal participant quantity data).

Rosemary C. v. Berryhill, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 213329, 2018 WL 6634348 (D. Maine, Dec. 19, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Social Security Disability case, \$3,051 granted) (\$198 @ 41 Years; \$198 @ 3 Years) (request for two paralegal rates of \$100 and \$110, Court adopted paralegal rate of \$105 instead of Survey Report rate of \$110, with note by Court that Survey Report lacked detail on quantity of paralegal data per state) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report provides attorney and paralegal participant quantity).

Buck S. v. Berryhill, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 213330, 2018 WL 6634347 (D. Maine, Dec. 19, 2018) ) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Social Security Disability case, \$4,299 granted) (\$198 @ 41 years; \$198 @ 4 Years) (request for paralegal rate of \$110, Court

adopted paralegal rate of \$105 instead of Survey Report rate of \$110, with note by Court that Survey Report lacked detail on quantity of paralegal data per state) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report provides attorney and paralegal participant quantity data).

# Michigan, E.D.

*Croft v. L.C. Maxwell & Assocs.*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9592, 2019 WL 275933 (E.D. S.D. Mich., Jan. 22, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$5,168 granted) (\$250 @ 26 years, \$250 @ 4 years; \$125 and \$100 paralegals).

*Green v. Nationwide Arbitration Servs., LLC,* 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 216557, 2017 WL 7211136 (E.D. S.D. Mich., Dec. 22, 2017) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights Contempt case, \$13,550 granted) (\$233 @ 1 Year; \$450 @ 24 years; \$100-125 paralegal).

Burrows v. Joe Hunt; Rawlins & Rivera, Inc., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16073, 2012 WL 424869 (E.D. N.D. Mich., Jan. 9, 2012) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$5,003 granted).

### Minnesota

Heroux v. Callidus Portfolio Mgmt., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1041, 2019 WL 92728 (D.C. Minn., Jan. 3, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$22,946 granted) (\$400 @ 23 years).

*Price v Midland Funding LLC, et al,* 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 178175, 2018 WL 5259291 (D.C. Minn., Oct. 22, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$6,080 granted) (\$400 @ 20 Years).

*Green v BMW of North American, LLC,* 2013 WL 9862198 (4th Jud. Dist. Hennepin Co., Minn., Nov. 20, 2013) (2007 Survey Report in vehicle warranty breach case, \$221,499 granted, reduced to \$110,332 on appeal, at 2014 WL 5800412).

# Missouri, E.D.

Breeden v. Consumer Adjustment Co., Inc., 2019 WL 1518185 (E.D. Missouri, Apr 8, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$9,120 granted) (\$300 @ 4 Years; \$100 Paralegal).

Morgan v. Vogler Law Firm, P.C., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 203969, 2018 WL 6304869 (E.D. Dist. Missouri, Dec. 3, 2018) ("The Court nonetheless notes that counsel has fewer than five years' experience in prosecuting actions like these, and counsel produced no affidavits with information regarding hourly rates commanded by St. Louis-area attorneys prosecuting FDCPA actions.") (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$300 @ 6 years; \$300 @ 13 years, \$61,890 granted).

Davis v. Fid. Info. Corp., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 199416, 2018 WL 6171438 (E.D. E.D. Missouri, Nov. 26, 2018) (movant requested fees with no supporting affidavit or evidence except for the 2015-2016 Survey Report resulting in court denied "in the absence of additional supporting documentation..." which was subsequently provided and the motion granted with no statement of hourly rate allowed. See Davis v. Fid. Info. Corp., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 207761, E.D. E.D. Missouri, Dec. 10, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$11,515 granted).

*Cohen v. RSH & Assocs., LLC*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18296, 2014 WL 562729 (E.D. Missouri, Southeastern Div., Feb. 13, 2014) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,129 granted).

# Missouri, W.D.

Stallsworth v. Mars Petcare US Inc., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 77283, 2018 WL 2125950 (W.D., Missouri, Central Div., May 8, 2018) (2013 Survey Report, in FCRA, Credit Rights case, \$32,900 granted) (\$450 @ 5 years).

Stallsworth v. Staff Mgmt., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 77282, 2018 WL 2125952 (W.D., Missouri, Central Div., May 8, 2018) (2013 Survey Report, in FCRA, Credit Rights case, \$13,415 granted) (\$450 @ 5 years).

 $\it Pineda~v.~P\&B~Capital~Group,~LLC,~2011~U.S.~Dist.~LEXIS~145637,~2011~WL~6356866~(W.D.~Missouri,~Dec.~19,~2011)~(2008-2009~Survey Report,~in~FDCPA,~Credit~Rights~case,~$2,932~granted).$ 

# Nebraska

Murray v. Collections Acquisitions, LLC, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 92044, 2012 WL 2577211 (D. Neb, July 3, 2012) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,422 granted).

# Nevada

*Mandler v. Colvin*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16226, 2016 WL 526217 (D. Nev., Feb. 9, 2016) 2010-2011 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security case, \$7,831 granted).

Silver State Broad., LLC v. Beasley FM Acquisition, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 34032, 2015 WL 1186461 (D. Nev. Mar. 16, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Discovery Sanction case, \$9,885 granted).

Feely v. Carrington Mortg. Services., LLC, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 161626, 2014 WL 6388788 (D. Nev., Nov. 14, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$9,972 granted).

Schneider v. Social Security Administration, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 119553, 2014 United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

WL 4251590 (D. Nev., Aug. 27, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security case, \$4,146 granted).

# **New Jersey**

Piccinetti v. Clayton, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 183611, 2018 WL 5313919 (D. NJ, Oct. 26, 2018) ("While Defendants ask the Court to rely on the CLS fee schedule [Community Legal Services of Philadelphia], instead, the Court finds the CLA report [2015-2016 United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report] to be a better benchmark." (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$22,825 granted) (\$400 @ 8 Years; \$350 @ 5 years).

Doyle v. Midland Credit Management, Inc., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 215290, 2017 WL 6944789 (D. NJ, Dec. 1, 2017) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$11,594 granted) (\$361 @ 8 Years; \$467 @ 26 Years).

Swiatek v. Bemis Co., 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11006, 2015 WL 420014 (D.C. N.J., Jan. 30, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Disability Discrimination case, \$221,905 granted).

*Bukowski v. Kia Motors America, Inc.*, 2014 WL 5113759, (N.J. Super.L., Sept. 4, 2014) (noting that rejection of the [Year not stated] Survey Report and the Laffey Matrix by *Williams v. NCO Fin. Sys.*, 2011 U.S. District LEXIS 50635 (E.D. Pa. May 10, 2011) and that Pennsylvania federal court cases were not binding on it, the Court in this Lemon Law, Vehicle Litigation, Magnuson Moss Warranty case awarded the full hourly rates requested, \$22,278 granted).

Whitt v. Receivables Performance Mgmt., LLC, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 143120 (D. N.J., Jul. 18, 2012) (2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,835 granted).

*Perez v. Midland Funding LLC*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 126404, 2011 WL 5156869 (D. N.J., Aug. 11, 2011) (2008-2009 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$9,559 granted).

### North Carolina, E.D.

LaFountain, Jr v. Paul Benton Motors of North Carolina, LLC, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121631, 2010 WL 4457057 (E.D. N.C., Nov. 5, 2010) (2007 Survey Report, in Vehicle Litigation, Warranty, Udap case, \$3,340 granted).

### Ohio

Davenport v A-Z Motors LLC, (Unreported, Franklin Co CP, Final Judgment Entry, Jan. 30, 2019; Magistrate's Decision Jan 22, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Vehicle Warranty, Udap, Fraud, Commercial Code case, \$6,970 granted) (\$425 @ 14 UNITED STATES CONSUMER LAW SURVEY REPORT 2015-2016 BANKRUPTCY EDITION

years).

*Fabish v. Harnak*, 2015-Ohio-4777, 2015 Ohio App. LEXIS 4671, 2015 WL 7357189 (C.A. 5<sup>th</sup> App Dist, Delaware Co, Nov. 19, 2015) (use of Survey Report upheld on appeal) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$25,081 granted).

Adam Beverly v. Student Loan Relief Organization LLC (Unreported, Huron Co CP, Final Judgment Entry, May 12, 2015; see National Collegiate Student Loan Trust 2003-1, 2014-Ohio-4346, 2014 WL 4824355, Sept. 30, 2014, for related case) ([year not stated] Survey Report, in Student Loan case).

# Ohio, N.D.

In re Sonic Corp. Customer Data Sec. Breach Litig., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 135573, 2019 WL 3773737 (N.D. Ohio, August 12, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Security Breach Class Action, \$1,297,500 granted).

*Mohn v. Goll*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 43866, 2016 WL 1258578 (N.D. E.D. Ohio, Mar. 31, 2016) (where the fee opponent proposed its use of the Ohio State Bar Ass'n fee survey, the Court negatively noted, at fn 6, the State Bar similar survey to be based on "a very small number of the relevant lawyers" in the jurisdiction at issue) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$19,427 granted).

*Ball v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 129924 (N.D. E.D. Ohio, Aug. 12, 2013) (2011 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security Disability Benefits case, \$4,765 granted); Mag. J. Decision Adopted, *Ball v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 129922, 194 Soc. Sec. Rep. Service Sep. 11, 2013 WL 4874092.

*Coy v. Astrue*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 50328, 2013 WL 1411137 (N.D. E.D., Ohio, Apr. 8, 2013 (movant cited 2010-2011 Survey Report and three other sources in support of request for upward departure from statutory hourly rate cap in social security disability case) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in EAJA Social Security case, \$4,828 granted).

Jablonski v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59734, 2012 WL 1552462 (N.D. W.D., OH, April 30, 2012) (citing Livingston v. Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113274, 2009 WL 4724268 (N.D. Ohio, Dec. 2, 2009)) (2007 and 2010-2011 Survey Reports, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,948 granted).

Livingston v. Cavalry Portfolio Services, LLC, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113274, 2009 WL 4724268 (N.D. Ohio, Dec. 2, 2009), Mag. J. Decision Adopted (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,951 granted).

Livingston v. Cavalry Portfolio Servs., LLC, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113240, 2009 United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

WL 4724268 (N.D. E.D., Sep. 8, 2009) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,951 granted).

# Ohio, S.D.

Morse v. Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 60791, 2018 WL 549372 (D.C. S.D. E.D. Ohio, January 25, 2018) (Ohio State Bar Association "Economics of Law Practice in Ohio in 2013" survey report not used for failing to account for experience level and geographical location data) (2015-2016 Survey Report not admitted into evidence due to failure to follow local rule but testimony allowed, in Vehicle Warranty case, \$27,754 granted).

Flaherty v. Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC (Unreported, S.D. E.D. Ohio, Order, Oct. 30, 2017, Case No. 2:16-cv-00085) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$375 @ 12 years; \$20,600 granted).

Simpson v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 10875, 2014 WL 794753 (S.D. E.D. Ohio, Jan. 29, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in EAJA, Social Security Disability case, \$7,392 granted).

Wamsley v. Kemp Creditors Interchange Receivables Mgmt., LLC, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 48454, 2010 WL 1610734 (S.D. E.D. Ohio, Apr. 20, 2010) ("Surveys conducted according to accepted principals are routinely admitted.") (using both the national Survey Report and the regional Survey Reports) ([Year not stated) Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,751 granted).

Paris v. Regent Asset Mgmt Solutions, Inc., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 106183, 2010 WL 3910212 (S.D. W.D. Ohio, Oct. 5, 2010) (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,053 granted).

# **Oregon**

*Kersten v. Quick Collect, Inc.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 58407, 2015 WL 1931137 (D. Ore., Apr. 27, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$23,702 granted).

# Pennsylvania

Blackhawk Pine Retail v. V., 2016 Pa. Dist. & Cnty. Dec. LEXIS 17408 (Pa. C.P., Allegheny Co, Civil Div., Jun. 22, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Lease Guarantee Contract case, \$95,791 granted).

Dibish v. Ameriprise Fin. Servs., 2015 Pa. Dist. & Cnty. Dec. LEXIS 432, \*17-18, 2016 WL 638776 (Pa. C.P., Allegheny Co, Civil Div., Mar. 23, 2015) ("The most objective document, and therefore what I considered most important in my analysis, was the "United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report 2010-2011"") (2010-2011

Survey Report, in Fraud, Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law case, \$25,000 granted).

# Pennsylvania, E.D.

Lindenbaum v. NCO Fin. Sys., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78069, 2011 WL 2848748 (E.D. Pa., Jul. 18, 2011) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,066 granted).

*Rivera v. NCO Fin. Sys., Inc.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 82419, (E.D. Pa., May 2, 2011) ([Year not stated] Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$4,933 granted).

# Pennsylvania, W.D.

*Murphy v. Ability Recover Servs., LLC*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 133667, (W.D. Pa., Aug. 7, 2019) (applicant must show prevailing rates in the relevant community; statewide and regional state survey rates are not the relevant community rates specific to metropolitan Erie, PA) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes Erie metro area among 157 greater metropolitan areas now covered by the survey).

*Bower v. NRA Grp., LLC*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121150, 2019 WL 3306515 (W.D. Pa., July 22, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA case, \$2,971 granted).

# Pennsylvania, U.S. Court of Federal Claims

Twerdok v. Secretary of Health and Human Services, 2016 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1853, 2016 WL 7048036, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, Aug. 4, 2016 (Survey Report held helpful in determining Erie, PA, hourly rate for attorney fee award under National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, the Vaccine Act, and comparing Erie and Hershey, PA, hourly rates) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Vaccine Act case, \$14,505 granted).

# **South Carolina**

Hutchison v. Lenders Portal Direct, LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 110639, 2018 WL 3241255 (D. S.C., Florence Div., Jul. 3, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Udap and Fraud case, \$11,342 granted) (\$400 @ 24 Years; \$275 @ 30 Years).

Green v. Momentum Motor Grp., LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 122, 2018 WL 259091 (D. So. Carolina, Rock Hill Div., Jan. 2, 2018) (Full amount of fees granted) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in case, \$7,400 granted) (\$400 @ [Years not stated]; \$275 @ [Years not stated]).

Companion Life Ins Co v. McCreary, et al, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172433, 2016 WL 7115910 (D. So. Carolina, Columbia Div., Nov. 22, 2016) (Survey Report supported requested hourly rates in insurance policy proceeds dispute) (full amount of fees

granted) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Insurance Benefits case, \$6,492 granted).

# Tennessee, E.D.

*Pierson v. Gregory J. Barro, PLC*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 67163, 2012 WL 1670549 (E.D. Tenn., Knoxville Div., May 14, 2012) "the mere fact that attorneys confer with one another does not automatically constitute duplication of efforts" (2007 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,056 granted).

# Tennessee, M.D.

McCutcheon v. Finkelstein Kern Steinberg & Cunningham, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121460, 2013 WL 4521016 (M.D. Tenn., Nashville Div., Aug. 27, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$8,57 granted).

# Texas, S.D.

*Szijjarto v. Farias*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17406, 2014 WL 555122 (S.D. Tex., Feb. 12, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$20,134 granted).

# Texas, W.D.

Campos v. Tolteca Enterprises, Inc., 2015 WL 13802511 (W.D. Tex., San Antonio Div., Dec. 4, 2015) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$6,907 granted).

### **U.S. Virgin Islands**

United States Postal Serv. Fed. Credit Union v. Edwin, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 31532, 2018 WL 1077291 (D. Virgin Islands, St. Croix Div., Feb. 27, 2018) (The Court in this fee-shifting mortgage case sought out and considered the Consumer Price Index Data, an article by Altman Weil, the 2015-2016 U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report, and a Florida Bar Survey and approved the requested hourly rates) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Foreclosure, Mortgage case, \$6,558 granted) (\$325 @ 40 Years; \$250 @ 8 years).

# Washington

*Merino v. The State of Washington, et al,* 2014 WL 12679683 (Wash.Super., Aug. 22, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Disability Benefits case, \$27,180 granted).

# Washington, E.D.

Adsit v. Dundrum, LLC, 2019 WL 1270937 (E.D. Wash., Mar. 29, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report [2017 update], in Class Action, Credit Rights case, \$30,234 granted)

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(\$375 @ 11 Years; \$125 paralegal).

# Washington, W.D.

Rodriguez v. Nancy A. Smith & Assocs., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 151719, 2012 WL 5207545 (W.D. Wash., Oct. 22, 2012) (noting the Survey Report did not break rates down by state, the Court held the 2010-2011 Survey Report "provides some guidance but is not conclusive") (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,434 granted) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains geographic data for every state and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

# West Virginia, S.D.

Pearson v. Prichard's Excavating & Mobile Home Transp., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16089, 2014 WL 534221 (S.D. W.Va., Huntington Div., Feb. 10, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in Sanctions for Defendant's Dilatory Conduct case, \$5,225 granted).

Koontz v. Wells Fargo N.A., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 45509, 2013 WL 1337260 (S.D. W. Va. Charleston Div., Mar. 29, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in WV Consumer Credit law and Mortgage law case, \$24,784 granted).

Harmon v. Virtuoso Sourcing Group LLC, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 129770, 2012 WL 4018504 (S.D. W. Va., Charleston Div., Sept. 12, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,411 granted).

# Wisconsin

Wilbrandt v. Chase Auto Fin. Corp., 2014 Wisc. App. LEXIS 150, 2014 WI App 38, 353 Wis. 2d 304, 844 N.W.2d 665, 2014 WL 700453 (C.A., Milwaukee Co., Feb. 25, 2014) (in affirming the trial court fee decision based on the 2008-2009 Survey Report, the Court of Appeals noted the hourly rate awarded by the trial court was in line with the 2010-2011 Survey Report which it described as "more relevant than the other two surveys," i.e., the Laffey Matrix and the National Law Journal Billing Survey) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$107,470 granted).

# Wisconsin, E.D.

Spuhler v. State Collection Servs., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 85318, 2019 WL 2183803 (E.D. Wisc., May 21, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA case, \$80,000 granted) (\$300 @ 12 Years; \$220 @ 8 Years; \$350 @ 25 Years),

Strohbehn v. Weltman Weinberg & Reis Co. LPA, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71058, 2018 WL 1997989 (E.D. Wisc., Apr. 27, 2018) (the Court noted that "Another helpful source for appropriate fee rates" is the 2015-2016 Survey Report) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FCRA, FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$46,680 granted) (\$300 @ 12 Years; \$220

@ 6 Years).

Heling v. Creditors Collection Serv., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89693, 2017 WL 2539785 (E.D. Wisc., Jun. 12, 2017) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$36,190 granted) (\$450 @ 23 Years; \$385 @ 16 Years; \$300 @ 14 Years; \$130, Paralegal).

*Andersen v. Riverwalk Holdings Ltd.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 162403, 2015 WL 7862923 (E.D. Wisc., Dec. 2, 2015) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$350 hourly rate from Survey Report adopted and granted with movant directed to file accounting of attorney fee records).

Crafton v. Law Firm of Jonathan B. Levine, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 29690, 2014 WL 907423 (E.D. Wisc., Mar. 7, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$15,000 granted).

Beach v. LVNV Funding, LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 162926, 2013 WL 6048989 (E.D. Wisc., Nov. 15, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$6,413 granted).

House v. Shapiro & Price, No. 10-CV-842, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38322, 2011 WL 1219247 (E.D. Wisc., Mar. 30, 2011) (2008-2009 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,952 granted).

*Moreland v. Dorsey Thornton & Assocs., LLC*, No. 10-CV-867, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 54487, 2011 WL 1980282, \*3 (E.D. Wisc., May 20, 2011) (2008-2009 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$3,144 granted).

Suleski v. Bryant Lafayette & Associates, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55353, 2010 WL 1904968 (E.D. Wisc., May 10, 2010) (2008-2009 Survey Report, in FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$2,342 granted).

# Wisconsin, WD.

*Broome v. Kohn Law Firm, S.C.*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 64025, 2019 WL 1595864 (W.D. Wisc., Apr. 15, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in FDCPA case, \$22,333 granted) (\$450 @ 31 Years; \$225 @ 2 Years; \$475 @ 18 Years).

# US Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters

Twerdok v. Sec'y of HHS, 2016 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1853, 2016 WL 7048036, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, Aug. 4, 2016 (Survey Report held helpful in determining Erie, PA, hourly rate for attorney fee award under National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, the Vaccine Act, and comparing Erie and Hershey, PA, hourly rates) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Vaccine Act case, \$14,505

granted).

# US Dept of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Administrative Law

*John A. Breda V. Kindred Braintree Hospital, LLC*, 11 OCAHO 1225, 2014 OCAHO LEXIS 18, 2014 WL 4390663 (Aug 26, 2014, Chief Administrative Hearing Officer Ellen K. Thomas) ([year not disclosed] Survey Report, in Massachusetts discrimination case, \$2,312 granted).

# US Dept of Labor, DOL Benefit Review Board, Administrative Law Judge

Jeanne Johnston V. Hayward Baker, Kemper Ins. Co., et al, 2019 DOLBRB LEXIS 354 (Oct. 29, 2019, Decision and Order, DOL Ben. Rev. Bd., Appeals Judges Buzzard, Rolfe, and Gresh) (affirming Nov. 16, 2018 DOL Order Awarding Attorney Fees (2015-2016 Survey Report, Longshore Act and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act case, \$575 @ 39 years; \$425 @ 15 years, \$135,728 granted).

Jeanne Johnston V. Hayward Baker, Kemper Ins. Co., et al, (Nov. 16, 2018, DOL Order Awarding Attorney Fees, Dist. Dir. Marco A. Adame II, 18th Comp. Dist.) ("M. Dupree's submission of affidavits along with the Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey appear to meet the requirements under Christensen and Van Skike as they require an examination of the broader legal community when determining the market rate. (Editor's Note: Mr. Dupree included the Consumer Law Attorney Survey with an explanation from the author explaining why the two areas of law are similar when determining attorney fees.") (2015-2016 Survey Report, Longshore Act and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act case, \$575 @ 39 years; \$425 @ 15 years, \$135,728 granted).

Robert Macher v. Jack Gray Transport, Inc., 2018 DOLBRB LEXIS 322 (Oct. 30, 2018, DOL Ben. Rev. Bd., Appeals Judge Hall, Gilligan and Rolfe), ("...the affidavit of Timothy O. Malloy and the Untied States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report ... substantiate an hourly rate .....") (2015-2016 Survey Report, Longshore Act and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act case, \$350 @ 38 years, \$350 @ 13 years, \$9,450 granted).

Jeanne Johnston V. Hayward Baker, Kemper Ins. Co., et al, 2018 DOLBRB LEXIS 260 (Aug. 29, 2018, DOL Ben. Rev. Bd., Appeals Judge, Boggs, Buzzard and Gilligan), "The case is remanded for the administrative law judge to address the Burdge declaration and the 2015-2016 extract from the U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report for the relevant community of San Diego." (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act case).

Levan Robert M. V. Knight Hawk Coal LLC Dir.-OWCP (DOL OALF Dec., Aug. 7, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report).

Wilson Mary L. OBO Ronald D. Wilson v. The American Coal Company (DOL UNITED STATES CONSUMER LAW SURVEY REPORT 2015-2016 BANKRUPTCY EDITION

OALJ Dec., Aug 7, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report).

*Phyllis Mathews V. Navy Exchange Service Command*, 2018 WL 1292722 (Feb. 15, 2018, DOL Ben. Rev. Bd., Chief Administrative Appeals Judge, Boggs and Rolfe). (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act case, \$17,617 granted).

Brock Roy v Manalapan Mining Co. Dir.-OWCP (DOL OALJ Dec., Dec. 6, 2017) (2015-2016 Survey Report).

### **American Arbitration Association**

In the Matter of the Arbitration Between [Claimant] V. [Respondent] (Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations), 2016 AAA Consumer LEXIS 207, 2016 WL 5105956 (Jul. 29, 2016) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in Vehicle "Autofraud" case, \$36,827 granted).

# Commonwealth of Virginia Orders

VA Orders 2016-21 (Jul. 13, 2016), Judicial Counsel of Virginia, Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Commissioners of Accounts of the Judicial Council of Virginia regarding changes to the existing Uniform Fee Schedule Guideline for Commissioners of Account, Dec. 9, 2015 Report (2014 Survey sections attached as Exhibit D).

# Law Reviews and Other Secondary Materials Citing Survey Report

132 A.L.R.Fed. 477, Award of Attorneys' Fees under 813(a)(3) of Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C.A. 1692k(a)(3)), Dec. 21, 2018, by Robert F. Koets, J.D.

71 Vand. L. Rev. 121, Vanderbilt Law Review, Jan. 2018, *Administration: Gatekeeping Consumer Contracts*, by Yonathan A. Arbel.

20 N.Y.U.J. Legis. & Pub. Pol'y 375, NYU Journal of Legislation and Public Policy 2017, *Tipping the Scales of Justice: the Role of the Nonprofit Sliding Scale Law Firm in the Delivery of Legal Services*, by Prof. Mitch, University of Wisc. Law School.

2016 TXCLE Advanced Consumer & Commercial Law 17, 2016, *Attorney Fees in Federal Court*, State Bar of Texas, by Prof. Mark E. Steiner, Hon. Andrew W. Austin and Richard Tomlinson.

22 Va. J. Soc. Pol'y & L. 71, Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law, Winter United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

- 2015, Bridging the Gap Between Unmet Legal Needs and an Oversupply of Lawyers: Creating Neighborhood Law Offices--the Philadelphia Experiment, by Jules Lobel and Matthew Chapman.
- 10 No. 26 Westlaw Journal Bankruptcy 6, Apr. 24, 2014, Thomson Reuters, Missouri Federal Judge Cuts FDCPA Fee Demand
- 61 Drake L. Rev. 639, Drake Law Review 2013, *DÉJÀ VU All over Again: Turner V. Rogers and the Civil Right to Counsel*, by Hon. David J. Dreyer.
- 63 Am. U. L. Rev. 87, American University Law Review, Oct. 2013, *Duke-ing out Pattern or Practice after Wal-mart: the EEOC As Fist*, by Angela D. Morrison.
- 18 Harv. Negot. L. Rev. 281, Harvard Negotiation Law Review, Spring 2013, Renovating the Multi-door Courthouse: Designing Trial Court Dispute Resolution Systems to Improve Results and Control Costs, by Barry Edwards.
- 15 N.Y.U.J. Legis. & Pub. Pol'y 759, NYU Journal of Legislation and Public Policy 2012, *Collaborative Technology Improves Access to Justice*, by Michael J. Wolf.

# Other Experts' Opinions Citing U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report

Tamara Spikes and Beaumont Independent School District, 2015 WL 2450879 (E.D. Tex., Jan. 6, 2015), Report or Affidavit of Kenneth W. Lewis (Expert Witness) (Civil Rights & Constitutional Law Case).

In Re Southwest Airlines Voucher Litigation, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 84072, 2014 WL 11115685 (N.D. Ill. Jun. 4, 2014), Declaration by Colin B. Weir (Expert Witness) (Class Action Case).

*Wallace v. Florida Dept. Of Education*, 2010 WL 9067802 (Fla. Cir. Ct., Jun. 2, 2010), Reply Affidavit of David M. Frank (Expert Witness) (Whistleblower Case).

# **News Reports Citing Survey Report**

Financial Law Reporter, *United States Courts Opinions: Bratton v FCA US LLC*, Oct. 25, 2018.

Newstex Blogs, 7 Ways Practice Management Will Help You Get a Head Start in 2018, Dec. 4, 2017, by Peter Hobbs.

PR Newswire, California Ranks No. 1 as the Worst State in America to Get a Low-Cost Divorce, Feb. 3, 2016.

Newsbank - Vermont News Sources, *Vermont among Most Expensive for Divorce*, Feb. 6, 2016.

ASAPII Database, *Keep Calm and Call a Lawyer, or Not; Homestead Business*, Jan. 1, 2014, by Jerri Cook.

Legal Monitor Worldwide, *PA Legal Documents Offers an Alternative to High Legal Fees*, Jun. 11, 2014.

# **Negative Cases on Survey Report's Use**

A listing of cases considering but *not* using the *U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report* when deciding attorney fee disputes in fee disputes in cases include those on the following list. It should be noted that the depth and breadth of this Survey Report has evolved over time and prior editions of this Survey Report were substantially different from editions appearing after 2012 and thus any negative cases using prior reports are likely to be distinguishable.

### Arizona

*Harris v. Monarch Recovery Holdings*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38513, 2014 WL 1245107 (D. AZ, Mar. 23, 2014) (2010-2011 Survey Report lacking in specific survey data for Phoenix, AZ) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 other major U.S. metropolitan areas).

# California

Sanchez v. Saul, 2019 WL 2642511 (E.D. Cal., June 27, 2019) (2013-2014 Survey Report, in EAJA case) (Survey Report statewide rate "fails to show these rates are in line with the prevailing market rate" in this District) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Brown v. Jonathan Neil & Assocs., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 24455, 2019 WL 636842 (E.D. Cal., Feb. 13, 2019) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Credit Rights case, \$25,867.50 granted) (court erroneously stated that the Survey Report "does not address the 'relevant legal community' here, which is the market within the Fresno Division" and apparently did not realize that the Survey Report actually did do so) (\$300 @ 6 years; \$225 @ 9 years).

Castaneda v. Ocwen Loan Servicing, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 198852 (C.D. Cal., Nov. 21, 2018) (2015-2016 Survey Report, in Mortgage, FCRA, FDCPA, Credit Rights case, \$77,418 granted) (movant cited two pages of excerpted fee survey without explanation of how they supported request and cited rates from Arizona instead of the relevant Los Angeles community; court used hourly rates requested by 4 movants and reduced one other movant 10% after using awards by movant and its own knowledge of

the local legal market) (\$550 at 27 years; \$450 @ 8 years) (Editor's Note: providing the Court with an adequate explanation of relevant portions of Survey Report is responsibility of fee movant).

*Brooks v. Sun Cash of SD*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20310, 2018 WL 747795 (S.D. Cal., Feb. 7, 2018) (finding prior edition of Survey Report did not include specific survey data for the district) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas; using current edition of Survey Report is responsibility of fee movant).

Valentin v. Grant Mercantile Agency, Inc., 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 212185, 2017 WL 6604410 (E.D. Cal., Dec. 26, 2017) (following Fitzgerald v. Law Office of Curtis O. Barnes and finding prior edition of Survey Report did not include specific survey data for the district) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Munoz v. Cal. Bus. Bureau, Inc.*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 109855, 2017 WL 3009210 (E.D. Cal., Jul. 14, 2017) (finding the 2013-2014 Survey Report did not include specific FDCPA data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

Forkum v. Co-Operative Adjustment Bureau, Inc., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 91148, 2014 WL 3101784 (N.D. Cal., Oakland Div., Jul. 3, 2014) (motion denied without prejudice and finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (refiled motion, adding supporting affidavits and again using 2010-2011 Survey Report, was granted, at 2014 WL 3827955) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Oyarzo v. Tuolumne Fire District*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 60778, 2014 WL 1747236 (E.D. Cal., Apr. 30, 2014) ((2010-2011 Survey Report not specific to Fresno locality) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Diaz v. Kubler Corp., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 199581, 2014 WL 12789109 (S.D. Cal., Mar. 26, 2014) (following *Branco v. Credit Collection Servs.*, finding the Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Cuevas v. Check Resolution Servs., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 189893, 2013 WL 2190172 (E.D. Cal., Aug. 8, 2013) (noting "straightforward issues" in case and inadequate explanation by movant of any factors justifying deviation from the presumptive local hourly rates from prior cases and relying on *Branco v. Credit Collection Servs.*) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas and specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

Lovett v. Simm Assocs., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 92495, 2013 WL 3242953 (C.D. Cal., June 25, 2013) (Local Rule 55-3 Fee Schedule followed and 2010-2011 Survey Report not applied in FDCPA case) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

Broad. Music Inc. v. Antigua Cantina & Grill, LLC, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72122, 2013 WL 2244641 (May 21, 2013) (with no explanation of source of hourly rates found applicable, the Court noted "plaintiff has not presented any information on the hourly rate in the Sacramento region for a routine copyright infringement case", and no explanation of similarities of Copyright Law and Consumer Law, and citing Branco) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Fitzgerald v. Law Office of Curtis O. Barnes, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 53642, 2013 WL 1627740 (E.D. Cal., Apr. 15, 2013) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data; in conflict with *Davis v. Hollins Law*, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 10-12 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 12, 2014)) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Miranda v. Law Office of D. Scott Carruthers*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2866, 2012 WL 78236 (E.D. Cal., Jan. 9, 2012) (finding the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data; in conflict with *Davis v. Hollins Law*, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 10-12 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 10, 2014)) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Durham v. Cont'l Cent. Credit, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 148403, 2011 WL 6783193 (S.D. Cal., Dec. 27, 2011)) (finding the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data; in conflict with Davis v. Hollins Law, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 10-12 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 12, 2014)) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Rubenstein v. National Recovery Agency, Inc., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 87941, 2012 WL 1425144 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 25, 2012) (finding the 2007 Survey Report unreliable, noting no statement of quantity of participants, expressing suspicion of bias by surveyor and survey participants) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes statements of participant quantity disclosure and survey's methodology's peer review and approval by National Association of Legal Fee Analysis).

*Branco v. Credit Collection Servs.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 138329, 2011 WL 6003877 (Dec. 1, 2011) (finding data in prior version of Survey Report not specific to District Court) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

*C.B. v. Sonora Sch. Dist.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 112870, 2011 WL 4590775 (E.D. Cal., Sept. 30, 2011) (finding the prior Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data; in conflict with *Davis v. Hollins Law*, 25 F.Supp.3d 1292, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 81024, 10-12 (E.D. Cal., Jun. 12, 2014)) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

#### Colorado

Howard v. Midland Credit Mgmt., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 136209, 2012 WL 4359361 (D. Colo., Sept. 24, 2012) (finding the 2010-2011 Survey Report's average hourly rate by itself did not include the effect of degree of concentration or years in practice of fee applicant) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice data for every state and many major U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

White v. Cavalry Portfolio Servs., LLC, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35601, 2012 WL 899280 (D. Colo., Mar. 16, 2012) (finding the 2010-2011 Survey Report's average hourly rate by itself did not include the effect of degree of concentration or years in practice of fee applicant) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice data for every state and many major U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

# Florida, M.D.

*Rizzo-Alderson v. Tawfik*, 2019 WL 3324298 (M.D. Fla., Ocala Div., July 1, 2019) (finding Survey Report statewide table of hourly rates "not necessarily reflective of reasonable rates in the Ocala area.") (Editor's note: current Survey Report edition contains data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas but not Ocala, Florida).

Baez v. LTD Fin. Servs., L.P., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 86949, 2019 WL 2223773 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., May 23, 2019) (finding Survey Report "unhelpful" in reliance on Alston v Summit Receivables) (\$184,195 fees awarded in FDCPA, Credit Rights case; \$450 @ 19 Yr; \$450 @ 24 Yr; \$450 @ 27 Yr; \$250 @ [Yr not stated]; \$150, Paralegal).

Baez v. LTD Fin. Servs., L.P., 2019 WL 2210687 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., Feb 26, 2019) (following Raimondi v Zakheim & Lavrar, P.A. (2012) and finding the finding Survey Report "not persuasive") (\$128,870 fees awarded in FDCPA, Credit Rights case) (\$400 @ 19 Yr; \$400 @ 24 Yr; \$400 @ 27 Yr; \$150 @ [Yr not stated]; \$150, Paralegal).

Alston v. Summit Receivables, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 118978, 2018 WL 3448595 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., Jun 27, 2018 (citing Raimondi, finding reference to Survey Report's "regional hourly rate" to be insufficient evidence of prevailing hourly rate in the relevant community, i.e., the District, in this "straight forward FDCPA and FCCPA case;" affidavits of counsel of record alone are insufficient; no local precedent for requested hourly rates; survey data based on voluntary reporting; also finding, however, that "the survey may be considered in determining a reasonable hourly rate") (Editor's Note:

current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas, and includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law, and includes all reported Consumer Law fee decision data in United States during the survey period).

Font v NCO Financial Systems, Inc., 2012 WL 13129967 (S.D., Fla., May 16, 2012) (2007 Survey Report use declined, noting, perceived issues, including report being 5 years old) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report includes sample size information and revised methodology and explanation).

Penny v. Williams & Fudge, Inc., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4567, 2012 WL 13102292 (M.D. Fla., Jan. 5, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report not specific as to local community, citing Sheeley and Selby) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Schoonover v. Receivables Performance Mgmt., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154825 (M.D. Fla., Tampa Div., Nov. 9, 2011) (citing Selby, finding 2007 Survey Report to be insufficient evidence of prevailing hourly rate in the relevant legal community, in this "routine, straightforward FDCPA action," and adopting previously awarded hourly rates) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas, and includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

Rubio v. FMS, Inc., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154822 2011 WL 13298613 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., Apr. 26, 2011) (citing Selby and Sheeley and Jennifer Morua v. United Recovery Systems, Inc., Case No. 6:10-cv-296-Orl-19-GJK (unreported), finding case to be a "routine, straightforward FDCPA action," prior version of survey not specific to case locality, hourly rate evidence insufficient, and no precedent awarding the requested hourly rates) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Raimondi v. Zakheim & Lavrar, P.A., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55590, 2012 WL 1382255 (M.D. Fla., Orlando Div., Apr. 5, 2012) (citing *Selby* and *Sheeley*, finding use of fifteen professionals to pursue case was not necessary in this "straightforward debt collection act suit," prior version of survey not specific to case locality and hourly rate evidence insufficient) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Schoonover v. Receivables Performance Mgmt., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 154825 (M.D. Fla., Tampa Div., Nov. 9, 2011) (citing Selby, finding use of 2007 Survey Report insufficient to satisfy burden of demonstrating reasonableness or case locality of hourly rates requested, case to be a "routine, straightforward FDCPA action," and lack of evidence of attorney experience) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Div., Apr. 27, 2011) (following *Sheeley v. Advanced Check Processing*) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Cook v. Law Offices of Forster & Garbus, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 125604, 2010 WL 4941439 (M.D., Fla., Orlando Div., Nov. 3, 2010) (2007 Survey Report did not provide data on locality of hourly rates) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Sheeley v. Advanced Check Processing, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 117760, 2010 WL 4569868 (M.D. Fla., Jacksonville Div., Sept. 13, 2010) (citing Selby v. Christian Nicholas & Assocs., where same law firm appeared, finding prior version of Survey Report and mere reference to it is insufficient to satisfy burden of demonstrating reasonableness or case locality of hourly rates requested, noting no information provided court on attorneys' experience or expertise, court adopted same rate awarded in Selby) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Selby v. Christian Nicholas & Assocs., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 25053, 2010 WL 745748 (M.D. Fla., Jacksonville Div., Feb. 26, 2010) (finding prior version of Survey Report and mere reference to it is insufficient to satisfy burden of demonstrating reasonableness or case locality of hourly rates requested, noting counsel of record are from Chicago and Los Angeles and failed to provide any other information supporting requested rates) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

### Indiana

*Watkins v. Trans Union LLC*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12968 (S.D. IN, Terre Haute Div., Jan. 28, 2019) (following *Grubbs* and *Lorik* "because it [the Survey Report] was not used 'in conjunction with other evidence'", granting \$10,533 in Discovery Dispute in Credit Rights, FCRA case) (\$ 250 @ 16 years).

*Grubbs v. Andrews & Cox*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 93643, 2016 WL 3902591 (SD Ind., Jul. 18, 2016) ("the Fee Survey is not particularized by subject matter or the ability of the attorney; instead, it averages the rates charged by all attorneys in a particular geographic area.") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

Lorik v. Accounts Recovery Bureau, Inc., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 39938, 2014 WL 1256013 (S.D. IN, Indianapolis Div., March 26, 2014) (following Kaylor-Trent v. John C. Bonewicz, P.C. and expressing doubt on usefulness and "overall reliability" of the 2010-2011 Survey Report) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas, and statements of participant quantity disclosure and survey's methodology's United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

peer review and approval by National Association of Legal Fee Analysis, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

### Illinois

Cooke v. Jackson Nat'l Life Ins. Co., 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 197908, 2018 WL 6067248 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Nov. 20, 2018) (in a breach of insurance contract case, where Laffey Matrix was previously disregarded and "plaintiff presents no evidence that 'consumer attorneys' garner hourly rates similar to those of insurance attorneys' 2015-2016 Survey Report and Laffey Matrix were afforded little weight to fee decision) (Editor's Note: when the case area of practice is outside of Consumer Law, movant should submit evidence of similarities in practice areas to establish hourly rate similarities) (reversed for other reasons at 919 F.3d 1024).

Paz v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs., LLC, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 191452, 2018 WL 4520221 (D.D. E.D. Ill. May 17, 2018) (following Farooq and Stockman and noting that time records included other unrelated work and stating "This court finds that Bowse has not provided adequate information to support the claimed hourly rate..." and instead used the hourly rate granted same movants in two similar FDCPA cases that were filed "within weeks of the instant case") (Editor's Note: movant submitted only its own affidavit and Survey Report with no other support; also, current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

Bowse v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs., LLC, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 222163 (N.D. E.D. Ill., Nov. 22, 2017) (following Farooq and Stockman and stating "This court finds that Bowse has not provided adequate information to support the claimed hourly rate..." and instead used the hourly rate granted same movants in two similar FDCPA cases that were filed "within weeks of the instant case") (Editor's Note: movant submitted only its own affidavit and Survey Report with no other support; also, current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

Farooq v. Portfolio Recovery, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 66180, 2016 WL 2909650 (N.D. Ill., May 19, 2016) (following Stockman v. Global Credit & Collection Corp.; noting the survey 2013-2014 results were "not particularized by subject matter or the ability of the attorney") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states).

Stockman v. Global Credit & Collection Corp., 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 111113, 2015 WL 4999851 (N.D., Ill., Eastern Div., Aug. 21, 2015) (noting differing opinions on use of Survey Report from District Court and stating the Survey Report was "not focused on lawyers who handle cases similar to this one") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

edition includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

*Kaylor-Trent v. John C. Bonewicz, P.C.*, 916 F. Supp. 2d 878, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3506, 2013 WL 120573 (C.D. Ill., Springfield Div., January 9, 2013) (2010 Survey Report did not report data specific to District) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and all U.S. states and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Ochoa v. Mistovich*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 182419, 2012 WL 6720682 (N.D. E.D., Ill., Dec. 27, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report "paints with a very broad brush" and is not specific to Illinois) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and all U.S. states and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

### Kansas

Wilkinson v. Mann Bracken LLC, Case No. 09-2430, D.C. Kansas, Jan. 21, 2010, (Unreported) (noting 2007 Survey Report aggregated data for the Midwest and was "too broad to be helpful in determining reasonable rates in the Kansas City area.") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

# Louisiana

*Martin v. Eaton Law Group Attys.*, *LLC*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 44778, 2014 WL 1330285 (M.D. LA, Mar. 3, 2014) (prior version of Survey Report did not "speak directly to the proper prevailing rates of this community") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Landry v. Caine & Weiner Co., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 123868, 2013 WL 4591445 (E.D. LA, August 9, 2013) (in a "simple" case where movant's reference to 2010-2011 Survey Report, rates sought by Illinois, New York, and California attorneys in the locality of New Orleans was found excessive) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and all U.S. states and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

#### Maine

Rosemary C. V. Nancy A. Berryhill, 2018 WL 6634348 (D. Maine, December 19, 2019) (using 2015-2016 Survey Report, request for two paralegal rates of \$100 and \$110, Court adopted paralegal rate of \$105 instead of Survey Report rate of \$110, with note by Court that Survey Report lacked detail on quantity of paralegal data per state) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report provides participant quantity data for both attorneys and paralegals).

# Michigan

*Firneno v. Radner Law Grp., PLLC*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 136660, 2017 WL 3675613 (E.D. Mich., Aug. 25, 2017) (using the State Bar of Michigan Report as more applicable to the specific locality at issue) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

### Minnesota

*Bell v. Am. Accounts & Advisers, Inc.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 223645, 2018 WL 6718573 (D. Minn., Nov 15, 2018) (simplicity of a case may alter hourly rate and average hourly rate linked with average years of experience) (Editor's Note: total years in practice and lesser years in niche practice area may be different and yield different hourly rates).

Mayo Foundation for Medical Education & Research, Mayo Clinic, Cerner Corporation, Cerner Corporation v. Dr. Peter L. Elkin, M.D., 540 Fed. Appx. 546, 2014 WL 12527218 (D. Minn., Mar. 19, 2014) (in a statutory trade secret claim case, consumer law survey "data 'is of limited probative value' because it relates to consumer law attorneys in the Midwest region") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Bankey v. Phillips & Burns, LLC, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46075, 2008 WL 2405773 (D. Minn., Jun. 11, 2008) (2007 Survey Report lacked detail on specific market data within the region or for FDCPA area of Consumer Law) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

# Missouri

*Maher v. Barton*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 45232, 2014 WL 1316936 (E.D. E.D. MO, Apr. 2, 2014) (mentioning 2010-2011 Survey Report and deciding that prevailing market rates did not support the movant's requested hourly rate) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

#### Nebraska

*Schommer v. Accelerated Receivable Solutions*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 86477, 2011 WL 3422775 (D. Neb., Aug. 4, 2011) (prior Survey Report's 11 state analysis is too broad to establish rate in Nebraska) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

# **New Jersey**

*Beneli v. BCA Fin. Servs.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19191, 2018 WL 734673 (D. N.J., Feb. 6, 2018) (class action case mentioning Survey Report but using "lodestar multiplier" calculation approach instead of hourly rate approach).

Westberry v. Commonwealth Fin. Sys., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14381, 2013 WL United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

435948 (D. N.J., Feb. 4, 2013) (using prior hourly rate decisions, citing *Bilazzo v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs.*, *LLC*) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

*Castro v. McCarthy & Jennerich*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11989, 2013 WL 335973 (D. N.J., Jan. 10, 2013 (2007 Survey Report not indicative of practice related to FDCPA) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

*Bilazzo v. Portfolio Recovery Assocs., LLC*, 876 F. Supp. 2d 452, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 89094, 2012 WL 2464223 (D. N.J., Jun. 25, 2012) (2010 Survey Report not indicative of FDCPA practice) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law)

Conklin v. Pressler & Pressler LLP, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 21609, 2012 WL 569384 (D. N.J., Feb. 21, 2012) (Court noted 2007 Survey Report and movant's lack of supporting affidavits on requested hourly rates, and adopted prior decisions on same law firm's rates in other cases) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas, and specific concentration of practice data for ten large population states and includes statements of participant quantity disclosure and survey's methodology's peer review and approval by National Association of Legal Fee Analysis).

Freid v. Nat'l Action Fin. Servs., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149668, 2011 WL 6934845 (D. N.J., Dec. 29, 2011) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2007 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Cassagne v. Law Offices of Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., LPA, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 135207, 2011 WL 5878379 (D. N.J., Nov. 23, 2011) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2007 Survey Report insufficient in FDCPA specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes all niche areas of Consumer Law practice, including FDCPA data, and geographic data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Levy v. Global Credit & Collection Corp., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124226, 2011 WL 5117855 (D. N.J., Oct. 27, 2011) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2007 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Weed-Schertzer v. Nudelman, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 108928, 2011 WL 4436553 (D. N.J., Sept. 23, 2011) (finding the Laffey Matrix insufficient in geographically specific fee data and the 2007 Survey Report data not specific as to area of practice within Consumer Law at issue in case) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice and geographic data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

### New York

Barksdale v. Global Check and Credit Services, LLC, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78476, 2010 WL 3070089 (D.C. W.D., NY, Aug. 4, 2010) (Following its prior decision in Hoover v. Western New York involving same type of claims and fee motion by same out of state law firm, the Court repeated that courts should generally use the hourly rates employed in the district in which the reviewing court sits in calculating the presumptively reasonable fee) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains geographic data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

Hoover v. Western New York Capital, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59621, 2010 WL 2472500 (W.D. N.Y., Jun. 16, 2010) (Court rejected movant's use of California rates from Survey Report in this New York case, holding "courts should generally use the hourly rates employed in the district in which the reviewing court sits in calculating the presumptively reasonable fee.") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains geographic data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas).

### Ohio

*Cortes v. Colvin*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 127874, 2014 WL 4472613 (N.D. E.D., Ohio, Sept. 10, 2014) (no evidence hourly rate for consumer lawyers is comparable to social security disability lawyers).

*Benyo v. Colvin*, 188 Soc. Sec. Rep. Service 13, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40179, 2013 WL 1195528 (N.D. Ohio, Mar. 22, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report held not helpful in Social Security case).

*Hawk v. Astrue*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3973, 186 Soc. Sec. Rep. Service 5, 2013 WL 139799 (N.D. E.D. Ohio, Jan. 10, 2013) (finding Survey Report not specific to Social Security law).

*Daniels v. Astrue*, 185 Soc. Sec. Rep. Service 518, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1418, 2013 WL 66083 (N.D. Ohio, Jan. 4, 2013) (2010-2011 Survey Report held not helpful in Social Security case).

*Hakkarainen v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 86964, 2013 WL 2950529 (N.D. E.D. Ohio, June 11, 2013) (citing *Keyes*, Survey Report not applicable in Social Security case).

Hakkarainen v. Astrue, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 188466, 2012 WL 8420139 (N.D. E.D. Ohio Jun. 27, 2012); adopting in part Maj. J. Decision at 2013 WL 2950529 (June 11, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report not used in Social Security case with statutory cap on fees no increase in hourly rate above cost of living increase allowed).

Keyes v. Astrue, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 88856, 179 Soc. Sec. Rep. Service 346, 2012 WL 2498892(N.D. Ohio, June 27, 2012) (2010-2011 Survey Report held not United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

helpful in Social Security case).

# Oregon

Hooks ex rel. NLRB v. Int'l Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 8, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 28159, 2016 WL 1043133 (D. Ore., Mar. 9, 2015) (National Labor Relations Board case finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

League of Wilderness Defenders/Blue Mts. Biodiversity Project v. United States Forest Serv., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 96335, 2014 WL 3546858 (D. OR, Jul. 15, 2014) (citing and following Fitzgerald v. Law Office of Curtis O. Barnes, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 53642, 2013 WL 1627740 (E.D. Cal., Apr. 15, 2013) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Behrens v. Smith & Greaves, LLP, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 21888, 2012 WL 590845 (D. Ore., Feb. 22, 2012) (2008 Survey Report did not include years of experience or include specific area of law at issue in case) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition contains specific years in practice data for every state and nearly 100 major U.S. metropolitan areas, and includes specific survey data for this and other niche areas in the field of Consumer Law).

Daley v. A & S Collection Assocs., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 131572, 2010 WL 5137834 (D. Ore., Portland Div., Dec. 10, 2010) (2007 Survey Report data not geographically specific as to District) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

# Pennsylvania

Navarro v. Monarch Recovery Mgmt., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 84095, 2014 WL 2805244 (E.D. Pa., Jun. 20, 2014) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2010-2011 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Murphy v. Receivable Mgmt. Servs. Corp., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 65402, 2013 WL 1905149 (E.D. Pa., May 8, 2013 (prior Survey Report "not specific to Eastern District of Pennsylvania") (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Zavodnick v. Gordon & Weisberg, P.C., 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78868, 2012 WL 2036493 (E.D. Pa., Jun. 6, 2012) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2007 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

Brass v. NCO Fin. Sys., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 98223, 2011 WL 3862145 (E.D. Pa, United States Consumer Law Survey Report 2015-2016 Bankruptcy Edition

Jul. 22, 2011) (mentioning the Laffey Matrix and 2007 Survey Report but applying the local Community Legal Services fee schedule) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Alexander v. NCO Fin. Sys.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 64211, 2011 WL 2415156 (E.D. Pa., Jun. 16, 2011) (mentioning the 2007 Survey Report but applying the local Community Legal Services fee schedule) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

*Williams v. NCO Fin. Sys.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 50635, 2011 WL 1791099 (E.D. Pa., May 11, 2011) (finding the Laffey Matrix and the 2007 Survey Report insufficient in geographically specific fee data) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report contains specific survey data for 157 U.S. metropolitan areas).

### Tennessee

Lee v. Robinson, Reagan & Young, PLLC, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 69096, \*22, 2015 WL 3442097 (M.D. Tenn., May 28, 2015) (2010-2011 Survey Report and Laffey Matrix when "submitted without guidance or specific argument by the plaintiff, are insufficient to justify higher hourly rates") (Editor's Note: the rule from this case seems to be that it is not enough to merely submit the Survey Report; some explanation should be made on how it applies and where in the survey there can be found support for the hourly rate requested by the movant).

Eidson v. Massa, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 91440 (E.D., Tenn., April 14, 2014) (noting absence in Survey Report of quantity of survey respondents, lack of actual court fee award input) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes statements of participant quantity disclosure and survey's methodology's peer review and approval by National Association of Legal Fee Analysis).

#### **Texas**

Ratliff v. Mesilla Valley Transp., Inc., 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 141533, 2019 WL 3936991 (W.D., Texas, El Paso Div., August 20, 2019) (applicant must show prevailing rates in the relevant community and neither the applicant's "home" state rates nor the state-wide rates of the relevant community are the prevailing market rates in El Paso) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report edition includes El Paso among 137 greater metropolitan areas now covered by the survey).

# Vermont

*Centrella v. Ritz-Craft Corp. of Pa., Inc.*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22308, 2018 WL 840041(D.C. Vermont, Feb. 12, 2018) (Survey Report not properly submitted, questioning accuracy of state metropolitan hourly rate) (Editor's Note: upon review, data entry error by participant noted and Vermont section of Survey Report revised with updated Vermont data and reported in new Survey Report edition dated Mar. 13, 2018).

### **Federal Court of Claims**

Gonzalez v. Sec'y of HHS, 2015 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1833, 2015 WL 10435023 (Fed. Cl., Nov. 10, 2015) (Survey Report not used in National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program case, citing Mooney v. Sec'y of HHS) (Editor's Note: the rule from these two cases is that some explanation must be made on how the area of Consumer Law is similar to the area of law involved in a movant's case at hand.).

Mooney v. Sec'y of HHS, 2014 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1526, 2014 WL 7715158 (Fed. Cl., Dec. 29, 2014) (National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program case; applicant "did not explain why 'consumer law' constitutes an apt comparison for fees purposes to Vaccine Act litigation." "Telling me why such comparisons are apt would be far more helpful than simply asserting that they are.") (Editor's Note: the rule from this case is that some explanation must be made on how the area of Consumer Law is similar to the area of law involved in a movant's case at hand.).

US Dept of Labor, DOL Benefit Review Board, Administrative Law Judge Judge

Ralph Abell v. Island Creek Coal Co., et al, 2018 WL 3007436 (May 21, 2018, DOL Ben Rev. Bd., Chief Administrative Appeals Judge, Gilligan and Rolfe) (Survey Report not helpful in absence of explanation of "how this is relevant in the area of black lung claims.") (Editor's Note: movant is responsible for providing Court with adequate explanation on how the area of Consumer Law is similar to the area of law involved in a movant's case at hand).

David R. Maddox v. Lodestar Energy, Inc., et al, 2018 WL 3007437 (May 16, 2018, DOL Ben Rev. Bd., Chief Administrative Appeals Judge, Gilligan and Rolfe) (aff'd 762 Fed. Appx. 269) (Survey Report not helpful in absence of explanation of "how this is relevant in the area of black lung claims.") (Editor's Note: movant is responsible for providing Court with adequate explanation on how the area of Consumer Law is similar to the area of law involved in a movant's case at hand).

Terry Grimm v. Vortex Marine Construction, et al, 2016 WL 7826580 (Dec. 28, 2016), (DOL Ben.Rev.Bd., Administrative Law Judge Wm. Dorsey, finding Los Angeles and San Francisco 2013-2014 Survey Report tables not relevant to San Diego market) (Editor's Note: current Survey Report provides tables for San Diego and nearly 100 other major metropolitan areas).

# 6. Cases on Use of Survey Data

Additional considerations in using fee surveys may be relevant to a court's consideration in a particular case, including the following concepts drawn from the illustrative cases below.

In determining whether a requested hourly rate is appropriate, a court may look not only to past awards within the district, but the other submissions offered in support of the award such as surveys and affidavits. See, *Waldo v. Consumers Energy Co.*, 726 F.3d 802, 2013 U.S. App. LEXIS 16555, 2013 WL 4038747 (6th Cir. Aug. 9, 2013); also see, *Sykes v. Anderson*, 419 Fed. Appx. 615, 618 (6th Cir. 2011) ("[t]he appropriate rate . . . is not necessarily the exact value sought by a particular firm, but is rather the market rate in the venue sufficient to encourage competent representation.").

While different attorney fee surveys may exist for the Court's consideration, the question may be which "fee survey better served the purpose of assessing the skills, experience and reputation of counsel" in a particular case. *Strohl Systems Group, Inc. v. Fallon*, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 90830, 2007 WL 4323008 (E.D. Pa., Dec. 11, 2007), aff'd 372 Fed.Appx. 230 (Mar. 30, 2010).

Moreover, a fee survey may be approved as probative evidence of the reasonableness of an hourly rate. *Taylor v. USF-Red Star Express, Inc.*, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3599, 2005 WL 555371 (E.D.Pa., March 8, 2005), aff'd 212 Fed. Appx. 101 (2006).

However, the results of an attorney fee survey may be merely a starting point, a piece of evidence that still should be shown to apply in a particular case. See, *Ray v. Secretary of Dept. Of Health and Human Services*, 2006 WL 1006587 (Fed.Cl., March 30, 2006).

The cost of performing an individual fee survey and analysis may be recoverable.

It is a matter of first impression that a fee applicant would hire another attorney to conduct a survey on her behalf. We cannot forget that Luessenhop has the burden of proving that her Fee Application is based upon prevailing market rates and that she has the right to present evidence to support the rate she believes to be prevailing. Here, where we are required to weigh the presumptive prevailing market rate district wide, further pondering the geographical distance and economic disparities between the Plattsburgh and Albany communities and Schneider's relatively limited access to those attorneys who practice civil rights litigation in Albany, we acknowledge that Luessenhop was left with little option but to hire Mishler, an Albany attorney, to conduct a more comprehensive survey on her behalf. Luessenhop seeks \$787.50 for Mishler's endeavors, which appears to be modest. Considering the amount of time this Court spent to conduct a similar survey, we do not find this

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amount to be unreasonable and will award it.

Luessenhop v. Clinton County, N.Y. 558 F.Supp.2d 247, 272 (N.D.N.Y., 2008).

Importantly, a fee survey is most useful when it surveys the general area of law at hand in an applicant's motion. Thus, the data from one type of survey may not be applicable to a different area of law without some explanation by the applicant of why the two areas of law are comparable. Nevertheless, more recent cases find guidance and value even if the survey is not of the specific area of law at hand before the Court.

Mooney v. Sec'y of Health & Human Servs, 2014 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1526, 2014 WL 7715158, \*3 n.9, \*5 (Fed. Cl. Spec. Mstr. Dec. 29, 2014) (Referring to the Survey Report in a fee motion brought under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program but noting the absence of the proponent's explanation why Consumer Law is comparable to Vaccine Act litigation).

*Gonzalez v. Sec'y of HHS*, 2017 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1833, 2017 WL 10435023, \*9 (Fed. Cl. Nov. 10, 2017) (Referring to the Survey Report but not stating a reliance upon it in a fee motion brought under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program).

However, cases outside of Consumer Law have used the Survey Report, e.g., *Twerdok v Secretary of Health and Human Services*, 2018 WL 7048036 (U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, Aug. 4, 2018) (Vaccine Act litigation); and, *John A. Breda V. Kindred Braintree Hospital, LLC*, 11 OCAHO 1225, 2014 OCAHO LEXIS 18, 2014 WL 4390663 (Aug. 26, 2014) (Employment Discrimination).

Also, survey evidence of the forum geographic area may not be applicable if the attorney's work is performed outside of the forum area.

Gonzalez v. Sec'y of HHS, 2017 U.S. Claims LEXIS 1833, 2017 WL 10435023, \*9 (Fed. Cl. Nov. 10, 2017) ("... the reasonable hourly rate should generally be based on the forum rate. Avera v. Sec'y of Health & Human Servs., 515 F.3d 1343, 1349 (Fed. Cir. 2008); see also Davis Cnty. Solid Waste Mgmt. & Energy Recovery Special Serv. Dist. v. U.S. E.P.A., 169 F.3d 755 (D.D.C. Feb. 26, 1999). However, an exception to the forum rule (often referred to as the Davis County exception) is applied in cases where the majority of the attorney's work is performed outside of the forum, and where there is a "very significant difference" in compensation between the forum rate and the local rate. Under such circumstances, when the forum rate is higher, the reasonable hourly rate for the attorney's fees award should be calculated utilizing the lower local rate. See Avera, 515 F.3d at 1349.").

### 7. About the Editor



Ronald L. Burdge is an attorney and the founder of Burdge Law Office Co L.A. in Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Burdge is in private practice in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana and elsewhere by *pro hac* admission, and is a nationally known Consumer Law attorney. For over a decade, Mr. Burdge has testified as an expert witness on Consumer Law and Attorney Fee issues in numerous state and federal courts. He is a member of the Total Practice Management Association and numerous professional associations.

He has authored numerous articles and lectured widely on Attorney Fee issues and Consumer Law and Consumer Trial Practice, and is a member of the American Society of Legal Writers and the Legal Writing Institute. Mr. Burdge has also lectured widely at national and state Consumer Protection Law seminars before attorneys, judges, and both public and business groups, and has testified before the Ohio Legislature and its committees on

Consumer Law issues.

He has served as Board Examiner for the National Board of Trial Advocacy and has extensive Consumer Law trial and appellate experience in individual and class action cases involving lenders, retail sales practices, defective products, and warranty litigation. Since 2004, he remains the only Consumer Law attorney in Ohio who has been named to Ohio Super Lawyer status by *Law & Politics* Magazine and Thomson Reuters, and whose practice is entirely devoted to Consumer Law work for consumers. Thomson Reuters is the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals. In 2004, he was named Trial Lawyer of the Year by the National Association of Consumer Advocates and in 2010 he was elected to a six year term on the Board of the National Association of Consumer Advocates.

# 8. Recommendations for Future Survey Data

As always, we welcome your suggestions for improvements to the survey and this Survey Report as we continue to gather useful information in the future.

Please email your suggestions to Ron@BurdgeLaw.com or you may mail them to Ronald L. Burdge, Esq., 8250 Washington Village Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45458.

Shortly before this Survey Report was published, the survey data gathering time frame was opened for participation for the next edition of the *United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report*. If you are an attorney who practices in the field of Consumer Law to any degree, your participation in the next survey would benefit the bar, practitioners and the Courts and would be greatly appreciated. You can do so by going to the website AttorneyFeeStudy.com and clicking on the "Click Here to Take the Survey Now" link.

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# Appendix 1. 2017-2018 Survey Questions

The following pages contain the survey questions and possible answers to each question.
question.

# US Consumer Law and Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey (2017-2018)

# **Consumer Law Survey Questions**

of your practice time.		
Bankruptcy Consumer Law Criminal Law Domestic Relations	Estate Planning, Probate, Wills General Practice Medical Malpractice Personal Injury	<ul><li>Securities</li><li>Workers Compensation</li><li>Other</li></ul>
Employment Law  2. What percentage of your p	Real Estate	aw, not including Bankruptcy Law
100	O 60	O 20
90		O 10
80	<b>40</b>	<u> </u>
70	○ 30	O less than 5
s. What specific areas of Cor	sumer Law practice do you regularly	handle? Check all that apply
Class Action		
Credit Rights (FCRA, FDCI	PA, ECOA, TILA, Credit Discrimination, Co	redit Reporting, Debt Defense, etc)
Mortgage (Foreclosure Def	ense, RESPA, HOLA, Real Estate, Housi	ng Rights, etc)
Vehicles (AutoFraud, Lemo	n Law, Warranty Law, UDAP, Repossessi	on Law, etc)
TCPA		

then you will need to d	complete this survey for each jurisd	rour rate is different for different jurisdictions, iction where you practice with a different hourly tional responses to Ron@BurdgeLaw.com and
they will be entered fo		
0 or n/a	375	725
O 50	<b>400</b>	750
O 75	425	775
O 100	<b>450</b>	○ 800
125	O 475	825
O 150	<b>500</b>	850
175	O 525	875
200	<u></u> 550	900
O 225	O 575	925
O 250	O 600	950
275	<b>625</b>	975
○ 300		O 1000
325	O 675	1025
○ 350	700	1050 or more
* 5. How many attorneys	are in your law firm?	
O 1	○ 3	5 or more
O 2	<b>4</b>	
* 6. How many full or pa	rt time paralegal or law clerk or le	gal assistants do you employ?
O 0	○ 2	O 4
O 1	○ 3	5 or more

0 or n/a	O 110	○ 200
<u>25</u>	125	O 210
O 50	<u> </u>	O 225
O 75	O 150	O 240
O 90	O 175	<u> </u>
O 100	<b>190</b>	275 or more
8. How long ago did you cha	ange your billable hourly rate?	
○ n/a	1 1/2 years	3 1/2 years
less than 1/2 year	2 years	4 years
1/2 year	2 1/2 years	4 1/2 years
1 year	3 years	5 years or more

ey response for each	additional jurisdiction where you pra	ctice.
Alabama	Maine	Oregon
Alaska	Maryland	Pennsylvania
Arizona	Massachusetts	Puerto Rico
Arkansas	Michigan	Rhode Island
California	Minnesota	South Carolina
Colorado	Mississippi	South Dakota
Connecticut	Missouri	Tennessee
Delaware	Montana	Texas
Florida	Nebraska	Utah
Georgia	Nevada	Vermont
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Virginia
ldaho	New Jersey	Virgin Islands US
Illinois	New Mexico	Washington
Indiana	New York	West Virginia
lowa	North Carolina	Wisconsin
Kansas	North Dakota	Wyoming

O 1	O 16	O 31
O 2	O 17	○ 32
○ 3	○ 18	○ 33
O 4	<u> </u>	○ 34
O 5	O 20	○ 35
O 6	○ 21	○ 36
O 7	O 22	O 37
O 8	○ 23	○ 38°
O 9	O 24	<b>39</b>
O 10	O 25	<b>40</b>
O 11	○ 26	O 41
O 12	O 27	<b>42</b>
O 13	○ 28	<b>43</b>
O 14	O 29	<b>44</b>
O 15	○ 30	45 or more
		rly practice? If more than one area, mark all that buth, Maui to be East, O'ahu to be North, and  Central
12. Do you regularly p		ore than 200,000 persons or less than 200,000
persons?		
Both more and less		
More than 200,000		
Less than 200,000		

## US Consumer Law and Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey (2017-2018)

### Bankruptcy Law Survey Questions

				8
1. Do you handle Chap	oter 7 or Chapter 13 Ba	nkruptcy Law matters	?	.)-
Yes (click here and question)	proceed to the following	No (click here an Next)	d go to end of page and click	
2. Do you handle Chap	oter 7 cases?			
○ Yes		○ No		
3. What is your typical	fee for a Chapter 7 ba	nkruptcy for above me	edian debtors?	
○ n/a	O 1000	0	1600	
500 or less	O 1100	0	1700	
O 600	O 1200	0	1800	
○ 700	O 1300	0	1900	
○ 800	1400	0	2000	
900	O 1500	0	2100 or more	

4. What is your typical fee	e for a Chapter 7 bankruptcy	for below median debtors?
O n/a	○ 1000	1600
500 or less	<u> 1100</u>	O 1700
O 600	O 1200	○ 1800
700	○ 1300	1900
O 800	O 1400	○ 2000
O 900	O 1500	2100 or more
5. When did you last char	nge your typical Chapter 7 fe	e?
O n/a	1 1/2 year	3 1/2 year
less than 1/2 year	2 year	4 year
1/2 year	2 1/2 year	○ 4 1/2 year
1 year	○ 3 year	5 years or more
5. In a Chapter 7, what ac	lditional fees <mark>d</mark> o you charge	for reaffirmations?
0 0	O 100	○ 200
○ 50	O 150	250 or more
7. In a Chapter 7, what ac exemptions?	lditional fees do you charge	for exemption planning or out-of-state
0 0	○ 100	○ 200
O 50	O 150	250 or more

8. In a Chapter 7, w	hat additional fees do you cha	rge for motions to redeem?
0	○ 200	○ 350
O 100	○ 250	O 400
O 150	○ 300	○ 450 or more
9. In a Chapter 7, w	vhat additional fees do you cha	rge for motions to avoid judgment liens?"
0 0	○ 200	350
O 100	O 250	O 400
O 150	○ 300	450 or more
10. In a Chapter 7,	what additional fees do you ch	arge for non-filing spouses?
O 0	○ 150	○ 300
O 50	○ 200	O 350
O 100	O 250	400 or more
11. In a Chapter 7, v	what additional fees do you cha	arge for tax dischargability?
O 0	○ 200	350
O 100	○ 250	O 400
O 150	○ 300	450 or more

12. In a Chapter 7, at wha	t amount of dischargeable debt	do you charge additional fees?
above 10,000	0,001-30,000	40,001-50,000
0 10,001-20,000	30,001-40,000	50,000 or more
13. In a Chapter 7, what a	dditional fees do you charge for	student loan discharge?
O 0	O 1000	O 1600
500	1100	O 1700
O 600	1200	O 1800
<b>700</b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>1900</b>
800	<u> </u>	2000
900	O 1500	2100 or more
14. What percent of your l	bankruptcy cases are handled o	n an hourly rate basis?
O 0	O 40	○ 80
O 10	O 50	O 90
O 20	O 60	O 100
○ 30	O 70	

### Bankruptcy Law Chapter 13 Survey Questions

1 Daniel bandla Char	4 422	
1. Do you handle Chap	iter 13 cases?	
Yes (Click here and question)	proceed to the following	No (Click here and proceed to end of page and click Next)
2. In a Chapter 13 case	, what is your presump	otive base fee?
3000 or less	○ 3750	<u></u> 4500
3250	<b>4000</b>	<b>4750</b>
3500	<u></u> 4250	5000 or more
3. In a Chapter 13, wha	at additional amount is	allowed for above Median debtors?
0	○ 200	○ 400
O 50	O 250	O 450
O 100	○ 300	○ 500
O 150	○ 350	550 or more
4. In a Chapter 13, wha	at additional amount is	allowed for a Business case?
O 0	<b>500</b>	900
1-200	○ 600	O 1000
○ 300	<b>700</b>	<b>1100</b>
400	○ 800	1200 or more

5. In a Chapter 13, what a	dditional amount is allowed	for a Certified Board Specialist?
O 0	O 500	O 900
1-200	○ 600	O 1000
○ 300	O 700	O 1100
O 400	○ 800	1200 or more
6. When was the presump	otive fee last changed?	
unknown	1 1/2 year	3 1/2 year
less than 1/2 year	2 year	
○ 1/2 year	O 2 1/2 year	4 1/2 year
1 year	○ 3 year	5 years or more

7. In a Chapter 13, what	additional fee is allowed f	or motions to extend stay?
0	○ 600	850
O less than 200	O 550	O 900
250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	O 1000
○ 350	O 700	O 1050
<b>400</b>	750	<u> </u>
O 450	○ 800	1150 or more
8. In a Chapter 13, what	additional fee is allowed f	or a contested confirmation hearing?
O 0	O 500	O 850
less than 200	O 550	O 900
○ 250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	1000
○ 350	○ 700	O 1050
O 400	750	O 1100
O 450	○ 800	1150 or more

9. In a Chapter 13, what	t additional fee is allowed f	or a motion to modify?
O 0	O 500	850
less than 200	O 550	900
O 250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	O 1000
350	700	O 1050
<b>400</b>	O 750	1100
O 450	○ 800	1150 or more
10. In a Chapter 13, wha	at additional fee is allowed	for defense of motion for relief from stay?
0	O 500	O 850
less than 200	O 550	900
250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	O 1000
○ 350	700	1050
<b>400</b>	O 750	O 1100
450	○ 800	( ) 1150 or more

0 (	500	○ 850
less than 200	O 550	900
250	○ 600	950
300	○ 650	O 1000
350	O 700	O 1050
400	○ 760	O 1100
450	○ 800	1150 or more
2. In a Chapter 13, wha	at additional fee is allowed	for motion to avoid judgment lie
		and the second second
0	O 500	○ 850
0 less than 200		
0 less than 200 250	<ul><li>500</li><li>550</li><li>600</li></ul>	<ul><li>850</li><li>900</li><li>950</li></ul>
0 less than 200 250 300	<ul><li>500</li><li>560</li><li>600</li><li>650</li></ul>	900 950 1000
0 less than 200 250	<ul><li>500</li><li>550</li><li>600</li></ul>	900 950

13. In a Chapter 13, who strip mortgage?	at additional fee is allowed	for a motion or adversary proceeding to
0 0	O 500	O 850
less than 200	O 550	O 900
250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	O 1000
350	O 700	O 1050
<b>400</b>	750	<b>1100</b>
O 450	○ 800	1150 or more
14. In a Chapter 13, who	at additional fee is allowed	for a motion to incur debt?
0	O 500	○ 850
less than 200	O 550	○ 900
O 250	O 600	O 950
○ 300	O 650	O 1000
350	<b>700</b>	1050
O 400	O 750	O 1100
450	○ 800	1150 or more

15. In a Chapter 13, who	at additional fee <mark>is a</mark> llowed	for a motion to buy or sell property:?
O 0	○ 500	850
less than 200	O 550	900
250	O 600	950
○ 300	○ 650	<u> </u>
350	700	1050
<b>400</b>	O 750	<u> </u>
<b>450</b>	○ 800	1150 or more
	at additional fee is allowed	2012
0 0	○ 500	850
less than 200	O 550	○ 900
O 250	O 600	950
○ 300	O 650	1000
350	O 700	<u> </u>
<b>400</b>	○ 750	1100
O 450	○ 600	1150 or more

#### Appendix 2. Geographic Area Definitions Used in Prior Survey Reports

In prior versions of the Unites States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Reports the data was compiled in twelve geographic regions, including several states identified as their own region. This approach was based on three factors: the long-established Altman-Weil<sup>4</sup> regional tables, the quantity of Consumer Law attorneys that were readily identified as practicing in each state, and the geographic proximity of any one state to a nearby overall region.

For readers who wish to attempt to make comparisons of data in the prior reports with the data provided in this 2017-2018 Survey Report, the following table lists the regional state content by state name.

The twelve regions for this survey are:

Atlantic: DC, DE, NC, NJ, PA, VA, WV

California

Florida

Mid West: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD, WI

New York

North East: CT, MA, MD, ME, NH, RI, VT

Ohio

Pacific: AK, HI, OR, WA

South: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, OK, SC, TN

**Texas** 

US Territories: Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands

West: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Altman Weil, Inc. provides management consulting services exclusively to legal organizations. Its clients include law firms, law departments, governmental legal offices and legal vendors of all sizes and types throughout North America, the U.K. and abroad. The Altman Weil website address is http://www.altmanweil.com/.

# Appendix 3. Statement of Peer Review by The National Association of Legal Fee Analysis

The following page contains the NALFA statement of its peer review opinions regarding the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report 2017-2018, from which the data was drawn for this United States Bankruptcy Law Attorney Attorney Fee Survey Report 2017-2018.



The National Association of Legal Fee Analysis (NALFA) is a 501(c)(6) non-profit professional association for the legal fee analysis field. Our members provide a range of services on attorney fees and legal billing matters. Courts and clients turn to us for expertise when attorney fees and expenses are at issue in large, complex cases. NALFA members are fully qualified attorney fee experts, special fee masters, bankruptcy fee examiners, fee dispute mediators and legal bill auditors.

We have reviewed the follow data and methodology prior to publication. We at NALFA support this hourly rate survey and the methodology contained within. This survey was conducted with the utmost professionalism, with statistical integrity and reliability, and with detailed hourly rate data and survey information. Indeed, this survey is the most comprehensive hourly rate survey for consumer lawyers in the U.S.

Terry Jesse

Terry Jesse, Executive Director terry@thenalfa.org

## Appendix 4. Table of Authorities

The following pages contain the Table of Authorities cited in this Survey Report.

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### United States Bankruptcy Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2017-2018

Consumer bankruptcy attorneys in every state and the U.S. Territories took part in this national survey of Bankruptcy Law attorneys and their law practice economics. Actual court case decisions were also included in the database. The results of this exhaustive and peer reviewed survey continues the trend of being the most comprehensive since this continuous research work began in 1999.

This Survey Report publishes Consumer Bankruptcy Law practice data drawn from the United States Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey for 2017-2018. This Survey Report continues to be the only national survey of of its type in the United States. First published in 2000 the reported Consumer Law data has been used in more than 46 jurisdictions, including state and federal courts, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the American Arbitration Association to determine reasonable attorney fee rates across the United States.

The Survey Report provides data for the entire United States, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and 98 greater metropolitan areas. From Cape Coral, Florida to Eugene, Oregon, from San Diego, California to Hartford, Connecticut, and points in between, this survey provides hourly rates for attorneys and paralegals, average years in practice, and far more information, with a Table of Authorities updated to September 10, 2019

The data published here will help the bench, the bar, and attorneys everywhere to understand the economics of practicing law in the niche area of Bankruptcy Law nationally.

In deciding a contested attorney fee motion in a fee-shifting case, Senior United States District Judge James C. Fox ruled that the *U.S. Consumer Law Attorney Fee Survey Report* was more persuasive than the National Law Journal's fee survey and the U.S. Attorney's Laffey Matrix in Consumer Law cases. *LaFountain, Jr v. Paul Benton Motors of North Carolina, LLC*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 121631, 2010 WL 4457057 (E.D. NC, Nov. 5, 2010).

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