

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, D.C. 20240

National Policy Memorandum

Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Number: NPM-ASIA-1

Effective: 08/24/18

Expires: 08/24/19

Title: Payment of Attorney Fees from Appropriated Funds

1. Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish a new hourly rate for attorney fees authorized to be paid from Bureau appropriated funds.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, and the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.

3. Policy and Procedures

Effective with the approval of Fiscal Year 2018 requests for attorney fees submitted pursuant to 25 CFR 89.40, *et seq.*, the payment of attorney fees may be made at a rate not to exceed \$200.00 per hour. This rate supersedes the rate previously established at \$125.00 per hour.

The Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs may, with the concurrence of the Office of the Solicitor, authorize expenditure of appropriated funds for Indian tribes to pay legal services with respect to trust resources. This expenditure is subject to the circumstances, factors, and procedures of 25 CFR 89.40-89.43.

4. Approval

Tara Sweeney

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

AUG 2 4 2018

Date