

## SOLUTION FOCUSED FAMILY CENTER



### Interview Offices:

5950 Park Vista Circle, Suite 110  
Fort Worth, TX 76244

4875 Preston Rd, Suite 200  
Frisco, TX 75034

**Telephone:** 817-966-5401

**Fax:** 817-840-5519

[www.solutionfocusedfamilycenter.com](http://www.solutionfocusedfamilycenter.com)

[info@solutionfocusedfamilycenter.com](mailto:info@solutionfocusedfamilycenter.com)

### Mailing Address:

8553 N. Beach St., Ste 189  
Fort Worth, TX 76244

## ADOPTION EVALUATION FEES

One of the ways in which evaluators maintain neutrality and ethical practice is by assuring that fee payment is not contingent on a particular recommendation or outcome. As such all evaluation fees are due in advance as a refundable retainer.

Contested adoption evaluations are billed in the same manner as child custody evaluations, as they require similar services. Uncontested adoption evaluations (pre-placement, post-placement, or combined) are offered at a substantial discount, and are billed at the following base rates

### Uncontested Adoption Evaluations

An uncontested adoption evaluation is billed at a flat base rate of **\$1,500**. This base rate covers interviews of up to five (5) persons (adults and/or children) involved in the case. There is an additional charge of **\$150.00 per party** for each additional person to be interviewed beyond the first five.

The base rate also covers collection of standard collateral information, review of basic documentation, and completion of a report to the court. It **does not** cover review of depositions, review of Child Protective Services records, or other substantial records review. Such additional work is billed based on a standard hourly rate of **\$150.00 per hour** as noted below.

Uncontested Adoption Evaluation	Additional Interviews	Standard Hourly Rate for Additional Work
\$1,500.00	\$150.00 per party	\$250.00

### **Expedited evaluations:**

On certain occasions, we can provide an expedited adoption evaluation for an additional fee of \$750. Please have your attorney reach out to confirm this is available. Completion of the expedited evaluation can be achieved within four (4) weeks following the first interview of one of the parties; however, meeting this deadline is contingent upon the cooperation of all parties. Clients must have already completed their DPS fingerprint background check to be eligible for an expedited adoption evaluation. Clients must clear their schedules to be available to attend individual interviews, which may involve 1 to 2 separate sessions, as well as group interviews with individuals living in the home, interviews with the children, and home visits. Clients must accept the appointment times offered by the evaluator and cannot refuse based on personal scheduling conflicts, such as work commitments. They must make themselves available to meet the expedited timeline.

While the evaluation is expedited, there will be no shortcuts in gathering detailed information or making thorough recommendations. Delays may occur due to factors such as notifications from Child Protective Services regarding an open case or the need to wait for additional records. Clients must also be willing to reach out to providers who may stall in providing requested documentation, and they may need to advocate for the timely release of these documents.

If a client pays for an expedited evaluation but is nonresponsive, fails to attend scheduled appointments, has no-shows, or is uncooperative in scheduling timely meetings, does not return phone calls in a timely manner, does not sign release of information as needed, does not assist in obtaining documentation from providers, or provides additional documentation to be reviewed such as depositions, review of Child Protective Service records, or other substantial records not included in the base rate or requiring extensive extra time, there will be no refund if the evaluation takes longer than three (3) weeks.

### **Court Appearances Fees:**

If Mindy Harrison, LCSW-S receives a subpoena, the requesting lawyer must contact our office to arrange a time for the subpoena to be served. The fee for any requested appearance, including subpoenas, settlement conferences, or dispositions, is \$350 per hour, with a minimum charge of \$1,400 for four (4) hours, payable upon receipt of the subpoena. A retainer of \$2,400 is required for a full day (8 hours), and a \$1,400 retainer is required for a half-day (4 hours), both payable in full upon receipt of the subpoena.

We require a minimum of 7 working days' notice to accommodate any schedule changes for our other clients. Legal cases necessitate significant time to be cleared from our calendar, along with additional professional preparation for any requested appearance, including subpoenaed or telephonic

appearances. Fees are due no later than 7 days prior to the court date and are nonrefundable, as we must clear our schedule regardless of whether the hearing occurs.

Please note that if an appearance request is received with less than 7 days' notice, the appearance fee is due immediately, along with an express charge of \$350. Additional fees for documentation preparation may also apply, as outlined in the advisement form. Any additional time spent by our evaluator in case preparation, travel, and witness time will be billed at an hourly rate of \$250.

Clients are responsible for any attorney fees and costs incurred by Solution Focused Family Center and Mindy Harrison, LCSW-S, due to legal actions, such as filing a Motion to Quash. If Mindy Harrison, LCSW-S is requested to appear in court by you or another party, you will be billed for all professional time, including preparation and transportation costs, given the complexity of legal proceedings. Failure to provide the specified fees constitutes a release from the requested appearance.

#### **Travel Fees:**

If Mindy Harrison, LCSW-S is required to travel outside of Tarrant County and its contiguous counties (Collin, Denton, Dallas, Parker County) to testify, an additional travel fee will apply. This fee structure is as follows:

- Commute of up to 2 hours: \$500
- Commute of up to 4 hours: \$1,000
- Commute of up to 6 hours: \$1,500
- Commute of up to 8 hours: \$2,000

These fees cover travel time to and from the court hearing or deposition for out of county meetings or hearings. For evaluations requiring airline or overnight travel I understand that fees are charged for travel time and travel expenses. Such travel time is logged as any time spent between originating airport and hotel, and is charged as noted above. Travel expenses include the full expense of the airfare, additional travel retainer will be calculated based on expected travel time and expenses and is due before any travel arrangements will be made. Additional costs for travel-related expenses, such as airfare, lodging, parking, meals, and transportation, will also apply.

An invoice will be sent to the requesting party, and payment is due upon receipt. Please be advised that failure to pay the minimum required fees as specified will constitute a release from the requested or subpoenaed appearance.

**Unanticipated costs:** I understand and acknowledge that unanticipated circumstances may necessitate additional hours of service outside those estimated in the retainer. These include but are not limited to: additional interviews; extensive telephone contact time; additional document review; any and all procedures to assess fresh allegations or issues which were not included in the original retainer estimate; and other case specific factors. Should costs rise above the retainer estimate I understand the Evaluator will notify my attorney and the original retainer will be revised.