

## Policy on Service by Investigators as Expert Witnesses

In the past, HHMI has strongly discouraged service by its investigators as expert witnesses in judicial or administrative proceedings because of the difficulty in predicting the nature, scope, and duration of such commitments. In recognition of the need for scientific expertise in the judicial process, HHMI has determined that it is in the public interest to permit investigators to provide such expertise by serving as expert witnesses subject to the following conditions.

The investigator's fees for expert witness service must either be waived or limited to \$2,500 per full day of service. An investigator's out-of-pocket expenses of serving as an expert witness may also be reimbursed.

All commitments to serve as an expert witness, like any other consulting, must be covered by a written agreement that has been approved in advance by the Institute. HHMI will not approve proposed expert witness service that can be expected to unduly intrude upon the operations of its laboratories or administrative offices.

Investigators should be aware that a commitment to serve as an expert witness may prove to involve significantly more time than expected at the outset. Any agreement to provide services as an expert witness must specify the maximum number of days of services that may be provided. Should the expert witness services require additional time, HHMI approval must be requested. All time committed to expert witness service will counted against the total number of days available during the year to the investigator for consulting.

Investigators should also be aware that a commitment to serve as an expert witness may lead to extensive requests for information and documents relating to the investigator's expertise, experience, and credentials.