

STANDARD DEFINITION OF A “CASE”
Standard #11

The Georgia Indigent Defense Act requires the Standards Council to adopt a uniform definition of a “case.” The Standards Council has adopted the following standard as the definition of a “case.”

The definition of a case is determined as of the time the case is opened in a circuit public defender office, conflict office, Office of the Capital Defender, or the Office of the Mental Health Advocate . A case consists of all charges against a single defendant arising out of a single event, transaction, or occurrence, or all charges against a single defendant arising out of incidents charged in a single indictment or accusation, and should be counted and reported as one case. Probation revocations shall be clearly identified as such for statistical purposes. When a case is closed with minimal expenditure of resources due to a discharge of counsel prior to conclusion of the case, the case shall not be counted for statistical purposes.

Commentary: The Standards Council may adopt a Standard for Weighting Cases under which a relative weight would be assigned to a case.

*Note – This Standard has already been approved by the Standards Council. This revised language, if approved, will replace the present Standard Definition of a Case.