

**TEXAS FAIR DEFENSE ACT**  
**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS**

**PART A - GENERAL INFORMATION**  
**(REQUIRED OF ALL APPLICANTS)**

**ATTORNEY CONTACT INFORMATION (Please Print Very Clearly):**

*TITLE:* \_\_\_\_\_

*LAST NAME:* \_\_\_\_\_

*FIRST NAME:* \_\_\_\_\_

*BAR CARD #:* \_\_\_\_\_ *SPN:* \_\_\_\_\_

*PHYSICAL ADDRESS:*  
(not a P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

*CITY:* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP:* \_\_\_\_\_

*MAILING ADDRESS:* \_\_\_\_\_

*CITY:* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP:* \_\_\_\_\_

*TELEPHONE #:* \_\_\_\_\_ *FAX #:* \_\_\_\_\_

*PAGER #:* \_\_\_\_\_ *CELL PHONE #:* \_\_\_\_\_

*E-MAIL ADDRESS:* \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTORNEY PROFILE**

**Check "YES" or "NO". If you check "YES" for any of Questions 2-8, attach any applicable court or committee documents, copies of all final orders (or those deferring adjudication), judgments, and, if desired, any written explanations.**

1. Are you currently in good standing with the State Bar?
2. Are you currently under indictment or charged with a criminal offense?  
(Do not include class C traffic offenses)
3. Do you have a pending appeal of any State Bar sanction?
4. Has the State Bar Grievance Committee ever sanctioned you?
5. Have you ever been sanctioned for failure to appear before a court?
6. Have you ever admitted, in connection with an official proceeding, to having provided ineffective assistance of counsel?
7. Have you ever been convicted or placed on deferred adjudication for any offense other than a traffic offense?
8. Have you ever been found by a court to have rendered ineffective assistance of counsel?

**What kinds of appointments are you seeking? Check all that apply:**

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- ☐ 9. 1st-Degree Felonies
- ☐ 10. 2nd-Degree Felonies
- ☐ 11. 3rd-Degree Felonies (STJF/MRPs/MAJs)
- ☐ 12. Non-Capital Appeals

- Before you may apply for court appointments of any type, you must meet the educational and testing criteria established by the Harris County District Courts.

**ATTORNEY BACKGROUND**

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Are you board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. If yes, in what area(s)?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Are you a member of the State Bar College?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Where did you graduate in your law school class?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. How many years have you been in practice?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. What was the date of your first court appointment? (Month/Year)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. How many hours of continuing legal education did you **average the last three years?** **Attach** your latest annual State Bar of Texas CLE report.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. How many open criminal files are in your current caseload?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. What percentage of your current practice is in criminal law?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. What percentage of your current practice is in criminal appointments?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. *For appellate applicants only:* Approximately how many appeals have you pursued in which **you** authored the brief/post-conviction writ (excluding subcontracted briefs)?

24. Which Harris County district **judges** presided over your last five (5) trials? (Provide the judge's name, not the court number. Your response may be fewer than five. Do not list visiting judges.)

25. Before which Harris County district **judge(s)** have you routinely appeared? (Provide the judge's name, not the court number.)

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#### **ATTORNEY TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

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Please read each question carefully. You may estimate your response.

#### **FELONY TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

**Questions 26-34.** These questions refer to the number of criminal cases you have tried to conclusion before a jury. This number should include hung juries, but exclude agreed competency hearings. Include your best estimate of **all** criminal cases you have tried either in Harris County, another county, or in federal courts.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. As **first chair**, how many felony criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?
- + \_\_\_\_\_ 27. As **second chair**, how many felony criminal cases tried to conclusion before a jury?
- = \_\_\_\_\_ 28. **How many total felony criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury.**

#### **FEDERAL EXPERIENCE**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. As **first chair**, how many federal criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?
- + \_\_\_\_\_ 30. As **second chair**, how many federal criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?
- = \_\_\_\_\_ 31. **How many total federal criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?**

### **MISDEMEANOR EXPERIENCE**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. As **first chair**, how many misdemeanor criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?
- + \_\_\_\_\_ 33. As **second chair**, how many misdemeanor criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?
- = \_\_\_\_\_ 34. How many **total** misdemeanor criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury?

### **TOTAL CRIMINAL TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. What is the **total** number of criminal cases you have tried to conclusion before a jury?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. Of the total cases cited in Question 35, how many criminal cases have you tried to conclusion before a jury **in the last five (5) years**?

**Questions 37-40.** Approximately what percentage of your *total trial* experience has involved the following types of offenses? (N.B.: The percentages do not have to total 100%):

- \_\_\_\_\_ % 37. Sex Offenses
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 38. Drug Offenses
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 39. Property Crimes
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 40. Assaultive Offenses

Indicate areas in which you have unique training or skill. (You may attach any applicable documentation or certification.)

- ☐ 41. Mental health cases
- ☐ 42. Level V deaf interpreter
- ☐ 43. Fluent in the following language(s) other than English:
- ☐ 44. Other training or skill (Please describe):

<p><b>PART B</b> <b>OPTIONAL INFORMATION</b></p>
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**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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List and describe other activities you have participated in that relate to criminal law:

45. Speaking:

46. Teaching:

47. Legal Publications:

48. Please include any other information that you believe makes you uniquely qualified to accept appointments in criminal cases (e.g. participation in criminal law mentoring or peer review programs; AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, etc. ):

49. I belong to the following professional organizations or associations:

**PART C**  
**JURAT**  
**(REQUIRED OF ALL APPLICANTS)**

I hereby certify that the statements in this APPLICATION FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false statement may disqualify me from consideration for appointment by the HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGES TRYING CRIMINAL CASES.

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Applicant's signature