

**Smith County Supplemental Plan
for Continuing Legal Education Requirements**

A majority of the Juvenile Board having approved it, the following amendment to the Plan for Appointment of Counsel is adopted and supersedes any previous continuing legal education requirements of the plan as follows:

MINIMUM CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Appointment in Juvenile Cases. An attorney who meets the requirements of this rule may be appointed represent an indigent juvenile detained for or accused of engaging in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, if the attorney is otherwise eligible to be appointed under the Appointment of Counsel Plan.

An attorney may be appointed under this rule only if the attorney:

- (1) Completes a minimum of six hours of continuing legal education pertaining to juvenile law during each 12 month reporting period. The first reporting period will begin on April 27, 2003, and then on the first day of each reporting period thereafter. Continuing legal education may include activities accredited under Section 4, Article XII, State Bar Rules, self-study, teaching at an accredited continuing legal education activity, attendance at a law school class or legal research-based writing; or
- (2) Is currently certified in juvenile law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Reporting Period.

- (a) Continuing legal education activity completed within a one-year period immediately preceding an attorney's initial reporting period may be used to meet the educational requirements for the initial year.
- (b) Continuing legal education activity completed during any reporting period in excess of the minimum six hour requirement for such period may be applied to the following period's requirement. The carryover provision applies to one year only.
- (c) To be included on the appointment list, each attorney must annually submit an affidavit to the county detailing the juvenile continuing legal education activities completed in the prior year. Alternatively, an attorney may annually submit documentation showing the attorney is currently certified as a specialist juvenile law.

Emergency Appointment.

If no attorney who meets these continuing legal education or board certification requirements is available by the time an attorney must be appointed in a case, another attorney may be appointed. The person making an appointment shall give priority to an attorney with experience in juvenile law.