

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NINTH CIRCUIT CJA APPELLATE PANEL FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications to the CJA Appellate Panel for the Central District of California are accepted annually during the month of December. Your application and supporting documents should be e-mailed in one combined pdf document to andrew_schulsinger@fd.org, by no later than December 31. Your application should include the following:

1. Two representative writing samples, preferably from Ninth Circuit appeals, which demonstrate your usual legal writing skill. **The writing samples must be your own work;**
2. A list of two or more references who are knowledgeable about your appellate experience, your commitment to indigent defense, your legal research and writing and written and oral advocacy skills, and your time-management skills;
3. A completed application form, copy enclosed;
4. A signed Professional Experience Inquiry Authorization and Waiver Form, copy enclosed; and
5. A signed Acknowledgment Form, copy enclosed.

If you do not have any Ninth Circuit experience, please provide information regarding appellate experience in other jurisdictions.

Since 1996, the Panel has been administered by the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California, by delegation from the Ninth Circuit. Panel members receive appointments under 18 U.S.C. § 3006A to handle direct criminal appeals and civil appeals from denial of relief under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2254 and 2255 in cases arising out of the Central District and elsewhere in the Ninth Circuit. Applicants should have significant federal criminal appellate experience or other transferable experience and a commitment to the representation of indigent defendants and petitioners. Excellent time management skills are essential.

The number and types of appointments can vary from year to year, but panel members should expect to receive an appointment every 2-6 months. Unless you have made a previous request to be removed from the rotation, you are expected to accept the appointment and not move to be relieved for a reason other than a conflict of interest. Frequent motions to be relieved are a basis for removal from the panel.

Panel members are expected to conform to applicable standards for the provision of services to indigent criminal defendants and petitioners, including but not limited to the ABA Standards for Criminal Justice (3d ed. 1993) (“The Defense Function”), available at http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/standards/dfunc_toc.html or your local law library.

There are three listings of panel members: (1) general; (2) those with experience in habeas litigation who take appointments in 2254 and 2255 matters; and (3) highly experienced, those who are qualified to accept appointments in complicated and extensive matters, including death penalty appeals. Work on appeals is at the CJA rate in effect at the time. Please see the Guide to Judiciary Policy Chapter VII for more information on current rates and what is and is not reimbursable.

Applicants must be members in good standing of the State Bar of California, have their office within the state of California, and should be able to travel to any of the district courts or Circuit courts when required. Preference is given to applicants practicing in the Central District. Members serve at the pleasure of the Ninth Circuit, as delegated to the Federal Public Defender. If you are removed from eligibility to receive appointments under the Criminal Justice Act by any federal court, you must notify us immediately and your membership on the panel will be terminated. If you are reinstated, you may re-apply to the panel during the next application period. Further details regarding membership, renewal, and removal are included in the enclosed information package.

New members are required to attend a half-day introductory training session. In addition, all panel members are required to attend a mandatory training in the Spring of each year. MCLE credit is available for both trainings.

A panel of experienced appellate attorneys will review the applications and make the selection. You will be notified of our action on your application by no later than February 15.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NINTH CIRCUIT CJA APPELLATE
PANEL FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Business address: _____

Facsimile: _____

E-mail: _____

I am interested in handling: [] habeas only [] criminal only [] any type of case

1. Courts in which you are admitted to practice:

2. Please list up to five (5) cases in which you were counsel of record through an entire Ninth Circuit criminal or habeas appeal, including briefing and oral argument. Please list the name and case number, name of opposing counsel, and disposition. You may substitute cases from other jurisdictions, if necessary. If you have not completely handled five appellate matters in any court, please explain your relevant qualifications and experiences and how those will be transferable to Ninth Circuit appellate practice. You may answer on a separate page.

| Case Name | Case Number | Opposing Counsel | Disposition |
|-----------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

3. References (please include a daytime phone number):

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| _____ Name | _____ Phone Number |
| _____ Name | _____ Phone Number |
| _____ Name | _____ Phone Number |
| _____ Name | _____ Phone Number |

4. Employment History:

Please list your employment history over the past ten years or since graduation from law school. Please indicate your major areas of practice for each position or time-period of self-employment.

You may answer on this page, or use a separate page to answer the following questions.

5. During the past five years, have you received an Order to Show Cause from any Court? If so, please list and explain:

6. Have you ever been removed from eligibility to receive appointments by any Court? If so, please list with dates and case numbers, and explain:

7. Have you ever been the subject of discipline by a State Bar or other disciplinary committee? If so, please list and explain:

8. Please list the continuing education courses you have completed in the past three years:

9. Please list any other information you believe is relevant to our consideration of your application. You may use a separate sheet if necessary.

Central District of California
Criminal Justice Act Appellate Panel Application Form
Office of the Federal Public Defender
321 E. 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 894-4103

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE INQUIRY
AUTHORIZATION AND WAIVER FORM

I hereby authorize the administrators of the disciplinary and inquiry bodies of any court, bar or other association to disclose to the Criminal Justice Act Appellate Panel Administration Committee of the Central District of California all information contained in the files of such bodies concerning my present professional status, all complaints which have been made against me, together with the disposition thereof. I expressly waive whatever right I may have to confidentiality of the foregoing information.

I also hereby authorize the custodian of any records or information related to my application for the Criminal Justice Act Appellate Panel for the Central District of California to permit the examination or receipt of such records and/or information by anyone designated by the Criminal Justice Act Appellate Panel Administration Committee.

Print or Type Name

Signature

Social Security Number

Date Signed

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

I understand that attorneys are selected to serve on the panel at the pleasure of the Court to represent indigent defendants; that this application only provides information for the use of the Federal Public Defender, by delegation from the Court, to select members of the panel and does not create entitlement for participation on the panel or appointment to cases; and that panel attorneys are subject to removal by the Federal Public Defender.

I understand and agree that representation of an indigent client upon appointment by the Court is a professional privilege and duty and that even if I am placed on the panel, I have no “right to appointment” to represent any indigent client.

I understand that failure to provide true and correct information in answer to any of the questions on this form will be grounds for denial of panel membership or removal from service on the panel at any time in the future.

I certify that I have read and understand the above and agree to it.

Date: _____

Signature