

## **ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI PANELS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT ATTORNEYS**

Pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act Plan adopted by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, the United States District Court, Eastern Division at Columbus, and Western Division at Cincinnati, are soliciting applications from members of the bar of this Court who wish to serve as appointed counsel for indigent criminal defendants under the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. §3006A.

Application form. All applicants must complete the approved application form, which can be found on the Court's website, [www.ohsd.uscourts.gov](http://www.ohsd.uscourts.gov). A hard copy of the application form may also be obtained from the Clerk of Court by telephoning 614-719-3000 (Columbus) or 513-564-7500 (Cincinnati), or by requesting an application by mail addressed to: Clerk, United States District Court, Joseph P. Kinneary Courthouse, 85 Marconi Blvd., Room 260, Columbus, OH 43215 (Columbus) or Clerk, United States District Court, 100 E. Fifth St., Room #103, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (Cincinnati). **Existing panel members must complete an application if they wish to be considered for continued membership on the CJA Panel.** Continued membership is not guaranteed, and the Court will seriously consider applications from highly qualified attorneys who are not currently members of the Columbus or Cincinnati CJA Panels.

Application deadline. The deadline for submitting an application is **July 20, 2009**.

Qualifications. All applicants must meet the qualifications set forth in the Criminal Justice Act Plan, Section VI(a)(2). Any member of the existing Cincinnati or Columbus CJA panels can expect to receive and is expected to accept between three and five appointments annually for defendants facing new felony charges and to serve as mentors if requested by the Court. Attorneys whose practice would not permit this volume of representation should consider whether they wish to become a member of the Cincinnati or Columbus CJA panel.

Selection process. All applications will be reviewed initially by the Cincinnati or Columbus CJA Committee, which, under the Plan, consists of a Magistrate Judge, a representative of the Federal Public Defender's Office, and, for purposes of reviewing applications for panel membership, may also include one or more attorneys in private practice who are not applicants for membership on the panel. The Committee may choose to interview applicants as part of this process. The final selection of panel attorneys will be made by the Cincinnati and Columbus District Judges.

Size of Panel. In order to insure that each panel member receives an adequate number of appointments on an annual basis, the size of the CJA panels will initially be set at approximately 35 attorneys or at such other size as the Court deems appropriate. The Court expects this process to result in a reduction of the panel size from historic and existing levels.

Term of appointment. Panel members serve no set term, and the Court may, from time to time, increase or decrease the size of the panel or alter its membership or remove panel members

in accordance with Section VI(A)(9) of the Criminal Justice Act Plan.

Equal opportunity. This Court is committed to providing an equal opportunity for qualified attorneys to be members of its CJA panel without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or disabling condition.

Note to Dayton CJA attorneys: Questions about continued membership on, or new applications for membership on, the Dayton CJA panel should be directed to Magistrate Judge Sharon L. Ovington, Federal Building, Room 523, 200 W. Second Street, Dayton, OH 45402, tel. no. 937-512-1570.