

NOTICE TO THE BAR

Federal Court Seeks Criminal Defense Lawyers for Criminal Justice Act Training Panel Program

In an effort to increase the diversity of attorneys on the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel, ensure the availability of qualified applicants to the CJA Panel, and secure quality representation for all indigent defendants, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio has implemented the CJA Training Panel Program. Under this mentoring program, CJA Training Panel Attorneys (“mentees”) who lack the requisite federal criminal experience for membership on the CJA Panel serve in a “second chair” capacity under the mentorship of an experienced CJA Panel attorney. Mentees are supervised and trained by lead CJA Panel attorneys on assigned cases. Mentees are compensated for their services at a reduced hourly rate established by the Court. Under the CJA Training Panel Program, mentees have the opportunity to acquire the experience necessary to provide high quality legal representation to indigent defendants in federal court cases and to be considered for appointment to the CJA Panel. Mentees who successfully complete the Training Panel Program will be encouraged to apply to the CJA Panel, but appointment is not guaranteed. A complete description of the CJA Training Panel Program, including the duties of and expectations for mentees, is on the Court’s website at <http://www.ohsd.uscourts.gov/criminal-justice-act>.

The Court is currently accepting applications for the CJA Training Panel Program. All applicants must complete the application form which is located on the Court’s website. The deadline for submitting an application is **September 1, 2024**

For additional information, please contact:

(Cincinnati CJA Training Panel Program)
Chief Magistrate Judge Karen L. Litkovitz
Chair, Cincinnati CJA Seat of Court Committee
Potter Stewart U.S. Courthouse, Room 716
Cincinnati, OH 45202
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Email: Litkovitz_Chambers@ohsd.uscourts.gov

(Columbus CJA Training Panel Program)
Magistrate Judge Elizabeth A. Preston Deavers
Chair, Columbus CJA Seat of Court Committee
172 Joseph P. Kinneary United States Courthouse
85 Marconi Boulevard
Columbus, OH 43215
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Email: Deavers_Chambers@ohsd.uscourts.gov

(Dayton CJA Training Panel Program)
Magistrate Judge Caroline H. Gentry
Chair, Dayton Seat of Court CJA Panel Committee
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Email: Gentry_Chambers@ohsd.uscourts.gov

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