

FAIR DEFENSE ACT
APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES
185TH DISTRICT COURT

In furtherance of the Fair Defense Act's primary goal of providing qualified counsel to indigent defendants, and in accordance with the procedures of the alternative plan adopted by the judges trying criminal cases in Harris County, the 185th District Court will use a combination method of appointing attorneys that combines *individual case* and *limited term* appointment methods.

INDIVIDUAL CASE APPOINTMENTS (See *Standards and Procedures* 7.1, 8.0 & 9.1): The Court may use the *individual case* method to appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants as deemed necessary by the Court.

LIMITED TERM APPOINTMENTS (See *Standards and Procedures* 7.3, 8.0 & 9.3)

Weekly Appointments: The Court may appoint one (1) or two (2) *limited term* attorneys each week to handle cases as needed. Appointments will be made from the First-Degree List as described in the *Standards and Procedures* 4.2.2.

Daily Appointments: The Court will also appoint *limited term* attorneys for one-day assignments as needed. The Court will make appointments that are consistent with the attorney's qualifications and the needs of the Court.

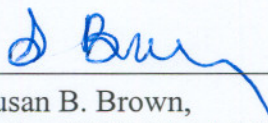
Appointments shall be made consistent with the attorney's qualifications and the needs of the Court. The Court shall appoint no more than 5 new defendants a day to weekly and daily *limited term* attorneys.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Individual Case Appointments Criteria: Attorneys selected for *individual case* appointments must meet the qualifications established by the board of judges and appropriate to the offense with which defendant is charged. See *Standards and Procedures* 7.1 & 9.1.

Limited Term Appointments Criteria: Attorneys selected for *limited term* appointments must meet the qualifications established by the judges and appropriate to the offense with which defendant is charged. See *Standards and Procedures* 7.3 & 9.3.

Date signed: Oct 3, 2007



Susan B. Brown,
Judge, 185th District Court