

**FAIR DEFENSE ACT
APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES
232ND DISTRICT COURT**

The 232nd District Court will use a combination of individual case, limited term and term appointment methods. Attorneys will be paid in accordance with the established fee schedule.

INDIVIDUAL CASE APPOINTMENTS: The Court will use the individual case method to appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants as needed.

LIMITED TERM DAILY AND WEEKLY APPOINTMENTS: The Court will appoint one limited term attorney each week and each day as needed for assignment of up to five new defendants per day.

TERM APPOINTMENTS: The Court will employ three qualified attorneys for one-year term appointments. The three term attorneys will be appointed to handle all non-death, post-conviction proceedings, including direct appeals, post conviction writs, and DNA motions.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Individual Case and Limited Term Appointments: Attorneys must meet the qualifications established by the Harris County District Courts Trying Criminal Cases.

Term Appointments: To qualify for term assignment, attorneys must:

1. be board certified in criminal law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization;
2. have practiced criminal law in Texas for at least 15 years;
3. have written at least 50 appellate briefs in criminal cases; and
4. demonstrate a commitment to completing appellate work in a timely manner and in accordance with the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Applications for Term Appointments: Attorneys shall submit their request for appointment to the Central Appointment Coordinator no later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2009, for consideration of the assignment for the term beginning January of the following year. The court, in its discretion, may conduct interviews of qualified applicants. See Standards and Procedures.

Date signed: March 11, 2010



Mary Lou Keel
Judge, 232nd District Court