

The Board of District Judges Trying Criminal Cases has amended The Standards and Procedures for Appointment of Counsel for Indigent Defendants. The amendments were recently approved by Judge Olen Underwood, Second Judicial Administrative Region.

*The changes are effective immediately.*

The amended plan may be found on the FDAMS webpage under Standards and Procedures, Criminal Section.

Following is a summary of the changes:

- Attorneys seeking capital appointments in Harris County now only apply through the Second Judicial Administrative Region.
- Harris County will no longer administer a capital test or use a peer review committee. Instead, Harris County District Courts will appoint attorneys to death penalty cases from the Second Judicial Administrative Region's list in accordance with Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 26.052.
- Attorneys on the Second Judicial Administrative Region's list will be required to apply through Harris County's system to be appointed for First-Degree, Second-Degree, Third-Degree and Non-Death Appeals.

If you have any questions, please call the Administrative Office of the District Courts.