



## THE CAPITAL AREA PRIVATE DEFENDER SERVICE

### **Qualifications to Participate in A Panel Training Program**

- Demonstrated commitment to providing quality representation to indigent clients
- Barred in Texas for at least two years
- On the CAPDS Panel or equivalent experience representing indigent clients
- Experience as first-chair or active co-counsel (taking witnesses/voir dire/opening or closing) for a minimum of one felony jury trial required
- Willingness to office full or part-time in the CAPDS USB office-space required
- Ability to work in team environment required
- Ability to accept constructive feedback required
- Must be available the week of March 5 for training (12-5 daily).
- Willingness to track time hourly required
- Willingness to follow the Texas Weighted Caseload Guidelines and commitment of time to training and casework required
- Must commit to CAPDS for four years total (two years of training followed by two years on the panel)
- Demonstrated use of or willingness to work with investigators, social workers, and immigration attorneys required
- Minimum five years legal experience preferred
- Spanish speakers strongly preferred
- Experience representing clients with a mental health diagnosis strongly preferred
- Experience second-chairing first-degree cases preferred
- Knowledge of forensic issues (DNA, Fingerprints, or other areas) preferred

Application requirements include a CV/Resume with cover letter, affirmation of being able to abide to the time commitments, and a one-page essay about why they want to provide quality representation to someone charged with a first-degree felony who cannot afford an attorney.