



**Application and Affidavit for Appointments
In Van Zandt County Courts**

Attorney Contact Information

Full Name	Bar Card #
Physical Address (No PO Boxes)	
Business Address	
Business Phone	Mobile Phone
Fax Number	Email Address

General Requirements for Court Appointed Attorneys

Please select each checkbox acknowledging you meet each requirement.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Licensed to practice law in the State of Texas;
<input type="checkbox"/>	In good standing with the State Bar;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit proficiency and commitment to providing quality representation;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit professionalism and reliability when providing representation;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have an E-mail and fax machine working 24 hours a day;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree to notify the Indigent Defense Coordinator's office promptly, in writing, of any matter that would disqualify the attorney by law, regulation, rule or under the Van Zandt County Indigent Defense Policy from receiving appointments to represent indigent defendants/respondents.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Must have an office or residence in Van Zandt County or a contiguous county.

Wheel Consideration

Please select all offense levels for which you would like to be considered.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One year experience in handling criminal cases or have an attorney with at least three years criminal experience sign on as their mentor and who would be available to assist them in any trial of the case. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Six hours of Continuing Legal Education in Juvenile Law and procedure every year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Misdemeanor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One year experience in handling criminal cases or have an attorney with at least three years criminal experience sign on as their mentor and who would be available to assist them in any trial of the case. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Six hours of Continuing Legal Education in Criminal Law and procedure every year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 rd Degree & State Jail Felonies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have practiced in the area of criminal law for at least three years; and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have tried to verdict at least two criminal jury trials as lead counsel.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 st & 2 nd Degree Felonies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have practiced in the area of criminal law for at least five years; <u>and</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have tried to conclusion at least three criminal jury trials as lead counsel, including at least one felony trial.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capital Cases (no Death Penalty)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have practiced in the area of criminal law for at least five years; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have tried to verdict at least five criminal jury trials as lead counsel, including at least two trials which were first or second degree felonies or capital felonies and at least one of which a homicide case.



Criminal Appeals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Misdemeanor Appeals	✓ Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List; and must meet at least one of the following criteria:
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Be currently board certified in criminal law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization; or
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have personally authored and filed at least 3 criminal briefs or post-conviction writs of habeas corpus; or
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have worked as a briefing clerk of an appellate court for a period of one year or more.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Felony Appeals	✓ Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List; ✓ and must meet at least one of the following criteria:
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Be currently board certified in criminal law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization; or
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have personally authored and filed at least 3 criminal briefs or post-conviction writs of habeas corpus; or
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have worked as a briefing clerk of an appellate court for a period of one year or more.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile Appeals	✓ Have met the qualifications for placement on the Misdemeanor List; ✓ and must meet at least one of the following criteria:
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Be Board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization or
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have personally authored and filed at least 3 briefs relating to juvenile cases
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have worked as a briefing clerk of an appellate court of a period of at least one year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CPS	✓
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ One year experience handling family law cases relating to child protection cases or have an attorney with at least years family law experience sign on as a mentor and who will be available to assist.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Three hours of Continuing Education in Family Law relating to child protections cases.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CPS Appeals	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have met the qualification for placement on the CPS List and
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have personally authored and filed at least 3 briefs relating to child protection cases.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Have worked as a briefing clerk of an appellate court of a period of a least one year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mediator	✓
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ 40 Hour basic mediation training course meeting the requirements of Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Must have independently mediated a minimum of 10 cases, and if applying for family case mediations, 5 of the 10 mediations must have been Family Law Cases within the last 2 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	Probate Mediator	✓
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ 40 Hour basic mediation training course meeting the requirements of Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Must have independently mediated a minimum of 10 cases, and if applying for probate case mediations, 5 of the 10 mediations must have been Probate Law Cases within the last 2 years.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tax Ad Litem	✓ In good standing with the State Bar

Categories

<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal Defendants with a Mental Illness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) One year experience in handling mental illness applications (through serving as hired counsel or observation of at least five mental illness hearings.) 2) Three hours of approved Continuing Legal Education in representing mentally ill persons. 3) Sign and file with the Court an acknowledgment of having been provided with a copy of the attorney's duties in representing proposed defendants and of having become knowledgeable with the applicable provisions of the Mental Health Code.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish Speaking	I affirm by signing the included Affidavit, my ability to fluently communicate in Spanish. I am fluent in both oral and written communication.



<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Languages	I affirm by signing the included Affidavit, my ability to fluently communicate in the language noted below. I am fluent in both oral and written communication of the language(s) noted below.	1	2	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Training and/or Skills		1	2	3

Attorney Profile

		Date licensed to practice law in Texas
Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are you currently in good standing with the state bar?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are you currently under indictment or charged for a criminal offense other than class C traffic offenses?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you have an appeal pending of any bar sanction?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are you board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization?
		If yes, in what area (s)?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are you a member of the State Bar College?
		How many hours of continuing legal education did you average in the last three years?
		How many open criminal files are in your current caseload?
		What percentage of your practice is in criminal law?

Jury Trials

	How many criminal jury trials have you tried in the last 5 years?
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Trial Experience

	What percentage of your practice consists of court appointments?
	Approximately how many appeals have you pursued in which you authored the brief (excluding subcontracted briefs)? (Applicable to appellate applicants only)
Which Judges presided over your last five trials (both jury and non-jury trials)?	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	



Sanctions

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you been sanctioned or censored by any professional entity of which you are or were a member including but not limited to the State Bar Grievance Committee? If yes, attach decisions by the entity and, if desired, any written explanations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you been sanctioned for failure to appear before a court? If yes, attach any applicable court documents and, if desired, any written explanations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you admitted, in connection with an official proceeding, to having provided ineffective assistance of counsel? If so, explain by attaching any applicable documents and, if desired, any written explanations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you been convicted or placed on deferred adjudication for any offense other than traffic citations? If yes, attach copies of all final orders (or those deferring adjudication) and judgments.

Required Attachments Checklist

Your application will not be complete until you submit the following items to:

(All items should be mailed or emailed together.)

Van Zandt County Indigent Defense Coordinator

Attn: Patti Tabraham

121 E. Dallas Street, Room 300

Canton, Texas 75103

<input type="checkbox"/>	A completed, signed, and notarized application.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your annual CLE report from the State Bar for the last three years.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have been sanctioned by the State Bar Grievance Committee, attach the decision(s) by the committee and, if desired, a written explanation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have been sanctioned for failure to appear before a court, attach any applicable court documents and, if desired, a written explanation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have admitted, in connection with an official proceeding, to having provided ineffective assistance of counsel, attach any applicable documents and, if desired, a written explanation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you have been convicted or placed on deferred adjudication for any offense other than traffic, attach copies of all final orders (or those deferring adjudication) and judgments.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you are applying for appellate appointments, attach a copy of a brief you have authored and which was filed within the past five (5) years.



ATTORNEY QUALIFICATIONS AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS **

COUNTY OF VAN ZANDT *

APPLICATION TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC APPOINTMENT LIST FOR VAN ZANDT COUNTY

I, _____, a licensed attorney in Texas, State Bar of Texas Number _____, with

my principal office at _____ do hereby file this Application in compliance with the LOCAL RULES OF VAN ZANDT COUNTY FOR THE TIMELY AND FAIR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL FOR INDIGENT DEFENDANTS/RESPONDENTS/CHILDREN, and swear or affirm that the information contained herein is true and accurate.

Should any change in this information occur, I will file an Amended Application with Van Zandt County within thirty days of the change.

REQUEST

I, _____, hereby request to be placed on the Attorney List/Wheels as documented herein.

Attorney Signature

Date

SWORN TO and SUBSCRIBED before me on _____ (Date)

Notary Public in and for
The State of Texas

My Commission expires: