

**Marion County
State of Texas**

Re: Notification of Application
For: Contract Indigent Defense Attorney
Period: January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Sealed applications shall be submitted no later than:

Date/Time: **12:00 noon Tuesday, October 31, 2017**

Mark Envelopes: **Indigent Attorney Application.**

All applications are to be sent to County Auditor at 102 West Austin, Room 205, Jefferson, Texas 75657.

Marion County appreciates your time and effort in preparing an application. Please note that all applications must be received at the designated location by the deadline shown. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered for award of the contract. Applications will be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 9:00 am in the Marion County Courthouse Annex, Jefferson, Texas. You are invited to attend.

Applications may be withdrawn by the attorney at any time prior to the official opening, but must be withdrawn in person. Alterations may not be made to an application once submitted, but a new application may be submitted if the substitution occurs before the opening time. After the official opening, applications may not be amended or altered and may not be withdrawn without the approval of the District Judges.

Applications will be opened and reviewed by Judge Rolston, Judge Parish, and Judge Jones on the date above. They will be evaluated on:

- (a) experience and qualifications of applicant;
- (b) applicant's past performance in representing defendants in criminal cases;
- (c) applicant's disciplinary history with the state bar;
- (d) applicant's ability to comply with the terms of the contract; and
- (e) cost of the services under the contract

Attorney shall be responsible for three different categories of cases in the County and District Courts System, which include appeals.

- (a) Felonies
- (b) Misdemeanor
- (c) Juveniles

Capital Murder cases in which the death penalty is sought will not be handled under the current contract. Those cases will be special cases that will be appointed by the District Judges as they arise.

Applications shall address experience and costs of services along with any other relevant information. Please submit your monthly fees for sole appointed attorney as well as a monthly fee for sharing the appointment with another attorney. (In the past, Marion County has had two attorneys on the indigent contract.)

Attorney awarded contract must have an office in the county and be willing to work with the District Attorney on indigent cases.

Attorney must meet the minimum attorney qualification requirements of the local indigent defense plan for criminal and juvenile cases. Therefore, the attorney shall:

1. Be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Texas;
2. Professionally perform duties and responsibilities of a licensed attorney for the State of Texas;
3. Complete annually such Continuing Legal Education programs as required by the Texas Judicial Counsel and local rules of Morris County for attorneys representing indigent accused persons, which shall include at least 8 hours of Continuing Legal Education in handling criminal cases.

A draft of the contract is enclosed for your review. Please contact the district judges for any question.