## THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO'S COURT APPOINTMENT PROGRAMS

We would love to hear from you! We are actively seeking to expand our panels and hope to work with interested lawyers, law students and paralegals. Panel defense work provides an indispensable high impact public service to the human rights and liberty interests of the San Francisco community while supporting private practitioners interested in joining a preeminent and progressive community of defenders, investigators and social workers for children and adults in three courts: Criminal, Delinquency and Dependency.



For more information, contact Berenice Quirino, J.D.



bquirino@sfbar.org



415-782-9011



www.sfbar.org/lris/courtappointment-programs/

## **WHO WE ARE**

The BASF Court Programs currently includes 120 private practitioners who serve on the three panels – some very part time, some full time. This program is held in high regard by the Superior Court, District Attorney, Public Defender, City Attorney and the public.

- In Criminal and Delinquency cases, our attorneys are appointed when the Public Defender declares a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable; we also provide direct assistance in post-conviction cases;
- In Dependency court, our attorneys are appointed for indigent parents and children in all cases filed by Child Protective Services (CPS) when families are separated or are subject to ongoing child welfare investigation for allegations of neglect or abuse.

## **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

Attorneys are paid hourly for their work, at competitive rates compared to other CA counties. This is an opportunity to keep litigation skills dynamic and to litigate issues at the forefront of the legal and forensic frontier. Hourly payment for work in and out of court incentivizes trial work and complex litigation needed in these cases, so that clients receive the highest quality of representation possible.



Panel attorneys handle approximately 30% of all adult criminal cases, 40% of all delinquency cases and 100% of all dependency cases.

## WHO WE SERVE

Our attorneys are dedicated to serving adults, youth and children living in poverty and struggling with multiple levels of systemic racism and oppression. Skilled and dedicated lawyers are needed in every court to combat systemic harm, support clients in healing from trauma, and mitigate the effects of system intervention in their lives. Our attorneys thoroughly investigate and test the legal basis of arrests/prosecutions in the criminal/delinquency courts and child welfare efforts to separate families in the dependency courts. Through our recently launched Multidisciplinary Representation Program, we practice holistic representation of our clients in all three courts and our new post-conviction unit directly assists the release of convicted clients.

