



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF DEFENDERS

- Opportunity to litigate at hourly rate as independent contractor in private practice
- Paid mentorship available to build qualifications before you apply
- Guidance on establishing your private practice in a supportive community
- Ongoing free MCLE training
- Flexible caseload and competitive rates
- Work with a holistic team: access to social workers, experts, investigators, paralegals



Criminal Defense

In Criminal Court, attorneys are appointed in all conflict of interest cases pending trial to defend adult clients charged with Misdemeanors, Regular Felonies, Serious Felonies, Homicide, Special Circumstances and Specialized Mental Health (including SVP). Also Misdemeanor Appeals and Post-Conviction Relief.

View Application.

Juvenile Delinquency Defense

In Delinquency Court, our attorneys are appointed in all conflict of interest cases to defend minor clients charged with Misdemeanors, Regular Felonies, Serious Felonies, and Homicide under § 707 W&I.

View Application.

Defending Families in Juvenile Dependency Court

In Dependency court, attorneys are appointed for minors and their parents/guardians in all cases filed by Child Protective Services (HSA) when families are separated or subject to ongoing child welfare investigation for allegations of neglect or abuse.

View Application.

About Us

We invite qualified attorneys from a variety of backgrounds and diverse experiences to apply to our court-appointed panels serving clients impacted by San Francisco's Criminal Court and Juvenile Court (Delinquency and Dependency divisions). Paralegals and law students are also encouraged to inquire!

Our three panels consist of highly regarded attorneys who are leaders in their field and serve as mentors to aspiring attorneys to join them on the panels. This is an accessible pathway for attorneys passionate about advancing justice. The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) is now available to attorneys of Court Appointed Panel Programs.

Panel attorneys earn a competitive hourly rate on par with the federal defense panel and other California courts. Join our preeminent community of dedicated advocates by applying! We welcome all inquiries.

How to Apply

- 1 Contact Julie Traun, CourtPanels@sfbar.org or (415) 782-8942 to learn more about our programs.
- 2 Complete and sign your panel application.
- 3 Review and sign the [San Francisco-Marin LRIS](#) and [Attorney Agreement](#).
- 4 Submit your application materials to Yvonne Ng by email to yng@sfbar.org.

For detailed application instructions, visit the [LRIS Membership page](#).