

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY**



James J. Vilt, Jr.
Clerk of Court

**RECRUITMENT NOTICE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT TRIAL ATTORNEYS AND
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT TRIAL ATTORNEY PANEL

Pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as amended (18 U.S.C. § 3006A) (the “CJA”), the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky has adopted a plan for providing representation to individuals who are financially unable to retain counsel in certain circumstances. The plan provides for the establishment of panels of private attorneys who are eligible and willing to be appointed to provide representation under the CJA.

Attorneys seeking admission to one of the Court’s CJA Panels must be members in good standing of the Kentucky Bar association for at least four (4) years and admitted to practice before this Court for at least two (2) years preceding the application. Applicants must additionally maintain an office in the division of the CJA Panel for which they seek membership. Specific qualifications are contained in in Section VII(C) of the Court’s [CJA Plan](#) located on the Court’s website.

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Court has created a mentorship program for applicants who meet the qualifications for panel membership generally, but who lack sufficient trial and courtroom experience for CJA Panel membership. Once admitted to the program, they will be appointed as associate counsel with an experienced member of the federal bar to provide non-duplicative representational services in appropriate criminal actions.

Attorneys seeking admission into the Mentorship Program shall be members in good standing of the bar of the Western District of Kentucky; maintain an office in the District; have, or be interested in developing, strong litigation and writing skills; and demonstrate a commitment to providing representation to indigent clients. See the [CJA Mentorship Program](#) for more details.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Attorneys interested in being appointed to a CJA Panel or admitted into the CJA Mentorship Program must submit an application, which can be found on the Court's website at <https://www.kywd.uscourts.gov/cja>, via email to CJA_Application@kywd.uscourts.gov from **March 1 to March 31, 2023**.

Approval of attorneys for membership on a CJA Panel and the CJA Mentorship Program will be made by the Court after review of all eligible applications, consideration of relevant case data and consultation with the CJA Panel Committee. For more information, please visit www.kywd.uscourts.gov/cja.