

Minimum Requirements for Appointment List – Felony “B”

1. Be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas;
2. Must average 10 hours a year of continuing legal education courses relating to criminal law.
3. During the preceding 5 years must have been lead counsel or presiding judge on 3 felony jury trials, must have been lead counsel on 10 misdemeanor jury trials, or 10 felony jury trials since being licensed as an attorney.
4. Must have been licensed to practice law in the State of Texas for at least 2 years.
5. Must not have been convicted of or currently charged with a felony or any crime of moral turpitude.
6. Must have an office in Denton County, or have a special designation as set forth below:
 - a. Must have Denton County business address registered with Texas State Bar; this provision does not apply to attorneys with special skills (foreign language, sign language, etc.) or attorneys who only handle appeals.

All applicants that meet these minimum requirements will still require the approval of a majority of the District Judges.

Minimum Requirements for Appointment List – Felony “A”

1. Be Certified in criminal law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization – *or* –
2. Be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas;
3. Must average 10 hours a year of continuing legal education courses relating to criminal law.
4. During the preceding 5 years must have been lead counsel or presiding judge on 5 felony jury trials.
5. Must have been licensed to practice law in the State of Texas at least 3 years.
6. Must not have received a public reprimand or greater penalty within the last 3 years.
7. Must not have been convicted of or currently charged with a felony or any crime of moral turpitude.
8. Must have an office in Denton County, or have a special designation as set forth below:
 - a. Must have Denton County business address registered with Texas State Bar; this provision does not apply to attorneys with special skills (foreign language, sign language, etc.) or attorneys who only handle appeals.

All applicants that meet these minimum requirements will still require the approval of a majority of the District Judges.

**** Requirements as set forth by Denton County District Courts’ Indigent Defense Plan ****

Minimum Requirements for Appointment List – Criminal Appeals

1. Be certified in criminal law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization; *or*,
2. Be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas;
3. Must average 10 hours a year of continuing legal education courses relating to criminal law;
4. During the preceding 5 years the attorney must have filed at least 4 appellate briefs with Texas courts on criminal matters;
5. Must have been licensed to practice law in the State of Texas for at least 2 years.
6. Must have Denton County business address registered with Texas State Bar (an exception to this requirement may be made if additional appellate attorneys are needed);
7. Must not have been convicted of or currently charged with a felony or any crime of moral turpitude.

All applicants that meet these minimum requirements will still require the approval of a majority of the District Judges.

*** Requirements as set forth by Denton County District Courts' Indigent Defense Plan ***

LH 7/9/21, 10/21/2021