

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO
ANNOUNCES ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS
FOR CJA PANELS**

Pursuant to General Order #210, the United States District Court for the District of Idaho will accept applications for positions on the District Court CJA Panel List for appointment to indigent cases in the District of Idaho.

The Panel shall be large enough to provide a sufficient number of experienced attorneys to handle the CJA caseload, yet small enough so that Panel members will receive an adequate number of appointments to maintain their proficiency in federal criminal defense work, and thereby provide a high quality of representation.

Panel members serve at the pleasure of the court. A Panel member must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Federal Bar of this District.
2. Have at least three years experience as a member of the Bar.
3. Have demonstrated experience in, and knowledge of (a) the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure; (b) the Federal Rules of Evidence; and (c) the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.
4. The Court is planning a one-day Mentorship Program for panel members and attorneys interested in appointment to the panel. The program will provide education and training from faculty composed of Judges, Federal Defenders, Assistant US Attorneys, Marshals, Clerks and others on a variety of subjects germane to the criminal defense practice in Federal Court. The subjects will cover both procedural and substantive aspects of electronic voucher preparation, submittal and payment; the Bail Reform Act; investigation and discovery; pretrial motions and sentencing. The Court has applied for CLE credit including ethics credits.

Attendance is encouraged in order to continue receiving appointments in large or complex cases, and will be reported to the Panel Selection Committee.

Attendance will be considered mandatory for attorneys who are applying for the first time, and for panel members who have been appointed to the panel for five years or less.

The tentative dates for the program are as follows:

Coeur d' Alene - November 16, 2009

Pocatello - November 23, 2009

Boise - December 4, 2009

More information will be available on our website and invitations sent to attorneys upon receipt of their panel application.

5. Must be a registered participant in the District's **Electronic Case Filing (ECF) System** and should be familiar with the **Electronic Case Filing Procedures** governing E-Filing in the District of Idaho.

Under the District's CJA Plan, the District is divided into three separate panels: the Southern Division, the Northern/Central Division and the Eastern Division, maintaining a separate roster for each division.

A Panel Selection Committee will review all applications and make recommendations for Panel membership to the Court. The Committee shall consist of one District Judge, one Magistrate Judge, at least one attorney, Clerk's Office staff and the Executive Director of the Federal Defenders or a designated representative. The Committee shall be chaired by the District Judge.

Appointments after the original Panel has been created will only be made in exceptional circumstances where necessary to further the Court's over-all objective of providing quality representation to all indigent defendants.

Once the Panel is determined, the Clerk's Office will send out notice and a General Order appointing the new Panel members. Applicants not selected will be notified.

The application can be obtained and completed from the Court's Internet website at:

www.id.uscourts.gov **Attorney Resources>Criminal Justice Act (CJA)>**
CJA Panel Application

Applications should be sent via E-mail to: Wendy_Messuri@id.uscourts.gov.

Applications to the Clerk's Office are due by November 13, 2009.