

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED LOCAL RULE CHANGE
AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 1.1(b) and Local Criminal Rule 1.1, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia is publishing for comment a proposed change to two Local Rules.

The proposed rule changes, which are set forth below, will be adopted and become effective unless modified or withdrawn by the Court after receiving comments from organized bar associations, members of the bar and public. Such comments must be made in writing within 45 days of the publication of this Notice and should be address to Kevin M. Hodges, Esq., Chairman, Advisory Committee on Local Rules, Williams & Connolly LLP, 725 Twelfth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Angela D. Caesar, Clerk

[New language is shaded, old language stricken]

LCrR 57.22

~~COURT APPOINTED REPRESENTATION~~

- (a) ~~Attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of this Court shall be required to assist or represent the needy in civil matters before this Court whenever requested by the Court and, if necessary, without compensation and to accept appointments under the Criminal Justice Act unless exempted by rule or statute.~~
- (b) ~~Attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of the District of Columbia or of any United States Court or of the highest court of any state may assist or represent the needy in civil matters before this Court without compensation, provided that such attorneys file a certificate under LCrR 44.1(g) and comply with the provisions of LCrR 57.26~~

~~CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT~~

(a) **~~CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT PLAN~~**

~~Any person eligible for services under the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as amended, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, shall be afforded representation in accordance with the provisions of this~~

Court's Criminal Justice Act Plan (CJA Plan). The current version of the CJA Plan shall be made available on the Court's website.

(b) CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT PANEL

A panel of attorneys eligible and willing to be appointed to provide representation under the Criminal Justice Act shall be known as the Criminal Justice Act Panel (CJA Panel). The eligibility criteria and application and appointment process for membership on the CJA Panel are set forth in the Court's CJA Plan.

(c) CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT COMMITTEE

The Court shall appoint a Criminal Justice Act Committee (CJA Committee), which, in accordance with the provisions of the CJA Plan, shall oversee the recruitment, selection and removal process for CJA Panel attorneys, as well as assist with training and review vouchers, as needed. The CJA Committee will provide an annual report to the Court regarding the operation and administration of the CJA Panel and periodically (at least every five years) will review and recommend, if appropriate, revisions to the Court's CJA Plan. The CJA Committee will consist of at least one district court judge, one magistrate judge, the federal public defender, the CJA Panel Attorney District Representative and at least three criminal defense attorneys who practice regularly in the district, two of whom should be CJA panel members. The CJA Committee shall meet at least once a year and at any time the Court asks the Committee to consider an issue.

LCvR 83.10

COURT APPOINTED REPRESENTATION

- ~~(a) — Attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of this Court shall be required to assist or represent the needy in civil matters before this Court whenever requested by the Court and, if necessary, without compensation and to accept appointments under the Criminal Justice Act unless exempted by rule or statute.~~

COMMENT TO LCvR 83.10(b): LCvR 83.10(b) has been deleted to avoid confusion with LCvR 83.2(g), and to make clear that attorneys can represent parties pro bono without being appointed by the courts.

LCvR 83.11

CIVIL PRO BONO PANEL

- (a) Attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of this Court are required ~~under Rule 83.10(a)~~ to assist or represent the needy in civil matters before this Court whenever requested by the Court, and, if necessary, without compensation. As one way to assist attorneys in meeting this requirement, and in light of the need for attorneys to represent indigent *pro se* litigants in civil matters before this Court, the Court hereby establishes a Civil Pro Bono Panel ("Panel") of attorneys who are members in good standing of the Bar of this Court and who have agreed to accept *pro bono* appointments to represent indigent *pro se* litigants in civil cases before this Court. Members of the Bar of this Court are urged to volunteer to serve on this Panel.

- (b) The following procedures shall govern the appointment of attorneys from the Civil Pro Bono Panel to represent *pro se* parties who are proceeding *in forma pauperis* in civil actions and cannot obtain counsel by any other means.