

FUTURE INDIGENT DEFENSE LEADERS

TCDLA | TIDC | HCPDO

FUTURE INDIGENT DEFENSE LEADERS (FIDL) MENTOR APPLICATION

Applications Due: Monday, December 16, 2019, by 5 pm (Central)

The Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA), the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC), and the Harris County Public Defender's Office (HCPDO) have partnered to launch a selective, three-year indigent defense training, mentoring, and leadership program. The goal is to create the next generation of highly skilled, client-centered attorneys who represent indigent defendants in the State of Texas. The inaugural cohort will be limited statewide to 25 mentors and 25 mentees.

Program Benefits

Mentors will receive the following:

- Gideon's Promise: Full tuition, travel, and lodging to Gideon's Promise Trainer Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia – [click here for more details](#)
- TCDLA: Annual membership, publications, 2 CLEs, and subscriptions
- Group Mentoring: Access to other leading defense lawyers



Program Requirements and Commitment

The program requires the following commitments by the mentor:

- Attend one of the Gideon's Promise Trainer Development Conferences, a five-day training in Atlanta, Georgia: 2021, 2022, or 2023;
- Mentor a promising criminal defense attorney you are assigned
- Work closely with your assigned mentee partner for a one-year commitment beginning June 2020;
- Participate in regular in-person or virtual mentoring meetings;
- Attend complimentary TCDLA CLE with mentee; and
- Complete a checklist of mentor-mentee activities.

Who Can Apply

The mentor program is open statewide to attorneys who meet the following criteria:

- Interested in building a legacy of quality indigent defense representation;
- Five trials as first chair for the defense or comparable experience; and
- Licensed and in good standing as an attorney for at least five years.

How to Apply - [Mentor Online Application – click here](#)

The mentor application process is selective. Applicants for the inaugural class should complete the online application by Monday, December 16, 2019, 5 pm (Central). A confirmation will be sent verifying the application has been received.

Questions

Application-related questions email mschank@tcdla.com or 512.646.2724

Additional information or program specifics email kcasey-gamez@tidc.texas.gov or 512.463.2573

Interviews and Final Decisions

Interviews with select candidates are expected to take place in January and February. Final decisions are expected to be made in March.