



COUNTY OF MAVERICK

Office of the County Judge

October 21, 2009

Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense
205 West 14th Street, Suite 700
Post Office Box 12066
Austin, Texas 78711-2066
Attention: Mr. Joel Lieurance, Task Force Policy Monitor

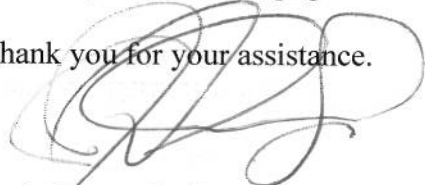
Subject: Review of Maverick County Indigent Defense Systems

Reference: Your letter, dated November 24, 2008, and Electronic Mail correspondence, dated October 14, 2009, subject as above

Dear Mr. Lieurance,

In response to our recent e-mail correspondence, the following information is provided as an enclosure to the original Review of Maverick County Indigent Defense Systems, Summary of Findings, page 4.

Thank you for your assistance.


José A. Aranda, Jr.
County Judge

Enclosure, as stated

Copy to: District Judge, 293d District Court



ACTION PLAN

pg. 10 Maverick and Zavala Counties have adopted the form which was provided to us by the Task Force on Indigent Defense. See attached.

Contact Person: Judge Cynthia L. Muñiz, Local Administrative Judge
Completion Date: November 1, 2008

pg. 11 Maverick and Zavala Counties have adopted the form which was provided to us by the Task Force on Indigent Defense. The requested information is documented on the new magistration form.

Contact Person: Judge Cynthia L. Muñiz, Local Administrative Judge
Completion Date: November 1, 2008

pg. 22 All bonded defendants are also provided with the form used by jailed defendants to request counsel, which is called "Declaration of Financial Inability to Employ Counsel". All magistrates have been provided with the forms which they provide to the defendants. The felony forms completed by felony defendants are transmitted to the Local Administrative Judge. The forms completed by the misdemeanor defendants are transmitted to the County Judge. Each judge's court administrator and staff are aware that time is of the essence, and the appointment is made within one (1) day.

Contact Person: Judge Jose Aranda, Maverick County Judge, for misdemeanors cases
Judge Cynthia L. Muñiz, Local Administrative Judge for felonies cases
Completion Date: November 1, 2008

DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INABILITY TO EMPLOY COUNSEL

Cause No. _____

THE STATE OF TEXAS

IN THE ____ DISTRICT COURT

vs.

_____ COUNTY, TEXAS

ARREST DATE: _____

FELONY OFFENSE CHARGED: _____

IN CUSTODY? ____ YES, Since (date) _____

____ NO

Have you been Indicted? ____ YES ____ NO

I, _____, am a Defendant in the above entitled action, I am not represented by counsel at this proceeding, I have no assets except the following: 1. My earnings are (Name and address of employer(s), and amount of weekly or monthly earnings)

2. I have other income in the amount of (State sources of income and amount paid weekly or monthly)

3. I am ____ am not ____ married and support children and/or ____ other dependents, as follows:

_____ (Name)	_____ (Relationship)	_____ (Name)	_____ (Relationship)
-----------------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------

_____ (Name)	_____ (Relationship)	_____ (Name)	_____ (Relationship)
-----------------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------

4. Earnings of my spouse are (Name of Employer(s) and amount of weekly or monthly earnings)

5. I own the following property: (Address where located) (Payments) (Balance Owed) (Value)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Home _____ | g. Other land and building _____ |
| b. Automobiles _____ | h. Notes, mortgages, trust deed _____ |
| c. Furniture _____ | i. Motorcycle(s) _____ |
| d. Other vehicles _____ | k. Livestock _____ |
| e. Stocks and Bonds _____ | l. Jewelry _____ |
| f. Other personal property _____ | |

6. I have the following money:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| a. In Jail -----\$ _____ | e. In Safety deposit box -----\$ _____ |
| b. At Home-----\$ _____ | f. Being held or owed to me-----\$ _____ |
| c. Checking Accounts-\$ _____ | g. Other-----\$ _____ |
| d. In Savings Accounts\$ _____ | |

7. I have the following debts and/or expenses in addition to those listed above: _____

8. I am ____ am not ____ free on Bail \$ _____, Name of person who posted Bail Bonds: _____

On this ____ day of _____, 200__, I have been advised by the _____ Court of my right to representation by counsel in the trial of the charge pending against me. I certify that I am without means to employ counsel of my own choosing and hereby request the court to appoint counsel for me. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

THIS DECLARATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE UNLESS SIGNED BY DEFENDANT.

Defendant's Signature

Defendant's Address

Use reverse side for
Additional information

Date Defendant's Telephone No.

Approved: _____
Not Approved: _____

Attorney Appointed: _____
Tel #: _____

DATE

JUDGE SIGNATURE

The appointing courts keep appointment lists and counsel are appointed on a rotation basis. The Standards and Procedures for Maverick and Zavala counties allow for some attorneys to request multiple appointments per rotation with the permission of the trial court. In these counties in felony cases, several attorneys do request four (4) appointments per rotation. This is permitted by the District Judges presently on a case-by-case basis, depending on the qualifications of the attorney. For example, only two attorneys currently receive four defendants per rotation. These attorneys are the only attorneys on the entire felony appointment list whose law practices are dedicated primarily to criminal law. All of the other attorneys who take felony criminal appointments do so primarily as a public service to the community and at the urging of the district judges. Allowing competent lawyers who want additional cases to receive more than one case per rotation prevents other lawyers from having their caseload overburdened with an excessive number of criminal appointments. The district judges and the lawyers seem to be pleased with this system, and are grateful to the lawyers who are willing to take on the additional cases per rotation. For these reasons, we believe our present system is fair, neutral, and non-discriminatory.

Contact Person: Judge Cynthia L. Muñiz, Local
Administrative Judge

Completion Date: November 1, 2008