

**DUTIES OF APPOINTED COUNSEL**

**UNDER THE FAIR DEFENSE ACT ALTERNATIVE PLAN**

**OF THE COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTS AT LAW OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

1. I have read, understand, and agree to follow the Local Rules of the Harris County Criminal Courts at Law, including Rule 24 that contains the standards, procedures, and expectations related to appointment of counsel for indigent defendants.
2. I understand that I am responsible for appearing in my assigned court no later than 8:30 a.m. each morning of my assignment unless I am given different instructions by the judge of that court.
3. I understand that if I do not appear in a timely manner I am subject to replacement by the judge presiding in the court.
4. I understand that if I am going to be late, or if I am unable to appear in my assigned court, I will immediately inform the judge or court coordinator.
5. I understand that as an assigned attorney I am subject to reassignment as the needs of the county criminal courts at law change.
6. I understand that I maybe removed from the list of approved attorneys: (1) if I am late; (2) if I cancel court assignments; or (3) if I do not respond within 48 hours to notification of an assignment.
7. I understand that my assignment is not an entitlement, and that I may be removed from the list of approved attorneys as provided in the Alternative Plan.
8. I understand that I may not send another attorney to appear on my behalf in a case to which I am appointed, or to a court in which I am assigned.
9. I understand that I am required to complete and file the order appointing me to represent each indigent defendant with the clerk of the court in which I am assigned.
10. I shall not associate another attorney as second chair without the written order of the judge who appointed me to the case.
11. I understand that I am responsible for representing an indigent defendant on a motion for new trial, and direct appeal, if one is filed.
12. I understand that I shall continue to represent an indigent defendant regardless of whether he/she is in jail or free on bond unless removed by the judge presiding.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

SBOT No.: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name