

The Southern District of New York Mentorship Program (the Program) is a collaborative effort resulting from the invaluable contributions from attorneys at the federal criminal defense Bar, members of the federal Judiciary (Magistrate, District Court and Second Circuit), along with members of the New York state court judiciary, and members of the Southern District of New York court personnel.

The goal of the Program is straightforward: to eliminate barriers of systemic exclusion, and to improve the quality of the SDNY CJA Panel through the implementation of a dynamic mentorship and training program, by attracting a diverse pool of applicants.

Although a purpose of the Program is and remains to improve diversity on the SDNY CJA Panel, the Program has, and continues to be, an equal opportunity open to highly qualified men and women attorneys from all racial and ethnic backgrounds. The focus has been on attracting experienced state court practitioners (former state prosecutors, 18-B Panel attorneys, state public defenders and members of the private state criminal defense Bar) from all racial and ethnic backgrounds who have an interest in developing their federal criminal defense skills to increase the possibility of becoming members of the SDNY CJA Panel. Participation in the Program does not guarantee any participant appointment to the SDNY CJA Panel.

Accordingly, all members of the Bar are encouraged and welcomed to apply to participate in this Program. Interested attorneys should complete the Mentoring Program application form, and email it and your resume to Peter Quijano at [peter@gandelaw.com](mailto:peter@gandelaw.com), and Anthony Ricco at [tonyricco@aol.com](mailto:tonyricco@aol.com)

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT MENTORING PROGRAM  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**MENTEE APPLICATION FORM**

*Please type or print your responses legibly. You may attach additional pages if necessary.*

1. NAME:  
ADDRESS:  
OFFICE TELEPHONE:  
CELLULAR TELEPHONE:  
EMAIL ADDRESS:
2. Please set forth your educational background, in reverse chronological order, specifying the school attended, years of attendance, date of graduation and degree obtained.
3. Please list the jurisdictions in which you are admitted to practice law, specifying the year of admission, and whether you are in good standing.
4. Have you ever been employed by a District Attorney's Office, the Legal Aid Society, Attorney General's Office or any other entity involved in litigation, civil or criminal? Please explain and provide dates of service and types of cases handled.
5. Are you presently serving on an assigned counsel plan representing indigent defendants? (e.g. New York 18 B Panel for misdemeanors, felonies or homicides) Please specify the panel, and your length of service on that panel, and the number of cases you have been assigned, specifying whether they were misdemeanors or felonies.
  - a) Have you ever been removed from any assigned counsel plan panel? Please explain.
6. How many criminal cases have you handled in the last five years, either as private or assigned counsel? Please indicate whether you were lead counsel or second chair and whether they were felonies or misdemeanors.

7. How many hearings in criminal matters have you conducted in the last five years? Please specify whether the cases were felonies or misdemeanors, the nature of the hearings, and what the outcome was.
8. How many criminal cases have you tried to verdict; or, negotiated notable or complex pre-trial dispositions in the last five years, either as private or assigned counsel?
  - a) In the cases that you tried to verdict, did you engage in any significant pre-trial or post-trial motion practice involving the submission of legal memoranda and/or oral argument? If so, please describe the issues presented and the outcome.
9. How many criminal cases have you handled in federal court in the last five years? Please indicate the court, whether you were sole or lead counsel or second chair, the nature of the case, and outcome.
10. How many criminal appeals have you handled in the last five years? Please specify which court heard the matter (i.e., Appellate Division, New York State Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, etc.)
11. Please provide any other information, including any civil litigation experience, which may be helpful in determining your eligibility for the Program. You may add additional pages if necessary.
12. Have you ever been or are you currently the subject of any disciplinary proceedings? If so, please explain.

**Interested attorneys should complete the Mentoring Program application form, and email it, and their resume, to Peter Quijano at [peter@gandelaw.com](mailto:peter@gandelaw.com), and Anthony Ricco at [tonyricco@aol.com](mailto:tonyricco@aol.com).**