

**2027/2028 North Hill Country Public Defender Improvement
Appellate Attorney**

Application Form

Counties Represented: **Burnet, Blanco and Llano**

Fiscal Year: **2027/2028**

State Payee Identification Number: **74-6000454**

Division to Administer Grant: **North Hill Country Public
Defender's Office**

Program Title: **NHCPDO Appellate Attorney**

Requested Grant Amount: **\$188137.79**

Authorized Official: **Michelle**

Moore

Financial Officer: **Kelley Glaeser**

Program Director: **Michelle Moore**

Mailing Address: **220 S PIERCE ST; BURNET, TX 78611**

a. Introduction (Executive Summary)

An Appellate Attorney will assist Burnet, Blanco and Llano Counties in ensuring that representation of indigent, court-appointed clients in three counties continues without interruption and without issue once a trial or hearing is completed in the trial courts. An Appellate Attorney also allows that the rights of those clients who were able to afford an attorney for trial, but who cannot afford an appellate attorney, have the opportunity to enter into the appellate process without hindrance.

b. Problem Statement

North Hill Country Public Defender's Office (NHCPDO) represents clients who are charged with approximately 840 misdemeanors and 720 felonies each year. Throughout the three counties, NHCPDO successfully covers all aspects of the case at present; however, representation ends at appeal. There is a lack of appellate attorneys for the Burnet, Blanco and Llano County area. At present, there are three attorneys who are on the appellate wheel in this region. These attorneys often cannot take the case because they are too busy or simply not available during the time frame required for the appeal. Having an available attorney with the NHCPDO would eliminate many issues with unavailability and would serve indigent clients in a more efficient and complete manner. The District Attorney's Office currently utilizes their Appellate Attorney to provide litigation support to the trial division in the District Attorney's Office. Hiring an Appellate Attorney in the NHCPDO would allow for parity and fairness in providing the same support to the trial teams in the NHCPDO.

c. Objectives

An Appellate Attorney would allow for complete representation for indigent clients within the region, including clients represented by the NHCPDO and clients who were represented by other attorneys. This addition would aid tremendously in reducing the wait times for appeals to be completed. An Appellate Attorney would provide litigation support to the trial division.

d. Activities

Hire an attorney with at least five years' experience with proficiency in direct appeals and petitions for discretionary review.

e. Evaluation

Track the number of clients that were appointed each month. Track services that are provided to that client.

f. Future Funding

This grant application is to cover costs for the attorney, research program, an additional computer as well as for software licenses at 80% coverage by TIDC the first year with 20% coverage by the three Counties. Funding after the first year would be at 66 ⅔% coverage by TIDC.

g. Budget Narrative and Budget Form

Hire one appellate attorney. Quoted at \$133461.01. Fringe benefits were quoted at \$42784.78. Purchase 1 Microsoft Surface Laptop computers and accessories to be utilized by the North Hill Country Public Defender's Office appellate. Quoted cost of \$3500. Purchase 1 Adobe Standard for the initial year. Quoted cost for Adobe Standard is \$160. Purchase 1 Criminal Laws of Texas Codebook. Quoted cost of \$87. Purchase 1 Texas Criminal Pattern Jury Charge Subscription. Quoted cost of \$199. Purchase 1 desktop scanner. Quoted cost of \$400. Continuing legal education at \$1600. The total cost is \$188137.79

Personnel Costs	\$0
FTEs	\$0
Salary	\$133461.01
Fringe Benefits	\$42784.78
Travel and Training	\$1600
Equipment	\$3987
Supplies	\$0
Adobe Standard and Pattern Jury Charge	\$359
Indirect	\$
Total	\$188137.79
Required County Match	\$37627.56
Total Less County Match	\$150510.23
