

**COUNCIL OF JUDGES ADMINISTRATION
EL PASO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
500 E. SAN ANTONIO #101
EL PASO, TX 79901
(915) 546-2143 / FAX (915) 546-2019**

TO: ATTORNEYS

**FROM: JUDGE DAVID C. GUADERRAMA
243RD DISTRICT COURT**

DATE: AUGUST 10, 2006

RE: CLE FOR NON BUY-OUT ATTORNEYS

THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS HAS APPROVED THE ACCREDIATION OF CLE ACTIVITY FOR ON THE JOB TRAINING CLE FOR ALL LAWYERS WHO REFUSE TO PAY THE BUY OUT FEE TO THE EL PASO BAR AND REFUSE TO GET THE REQUIRED CLE IN CRIMINAL LAW AS REQUIRED BY SENATE BILL 7.

THE "OVERALL PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF PROGRAM" WAS ALSO APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF JUDGES ON JUNE 12, 2006. FOUR ATTORNEYS FROM THE PUBLIC DEFENDERS WERE APPROVED BY THE STATE BAR. THE COURTS WILL APPOINT THESE ATTORNEYS AS A FIRST CHAIR PUBLIC DEFENDER TO MENTOR A LAWYER WHO REFUSES TO GET THEIR CLE.

FOLLOWING A MONITORING VISIT CONDUCTED BY THE TEXAS TASK FORCE ON INDIGENT DEFENSE (TASK FORCE) IN MARCH, 2005, THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDED THAT EL PASO COUNTY REQUIRE A PRIVATE ATTORNEY TO SUBMIT PROOF THAT THEY ATTENDED THE ANNUAL 6 HOURS OF CRIMINAL CLE REQUIREMENTS.

PURSUANT TO THE EL PASO COUNTY PLAN (RULE 8A, PAGE 14), ATTORNEYS WHO FAIL TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION OF THE SIX (6) HOURS CRIMINAL LAW MAY BE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL FROM THE APPOINTMENT LIST UNTIL ATTORNEYS MEET THE CLE REQUIREMENTS.

PRIVATE ATTORNEYS COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF 6 HOURS OF CLE PERTAINING TO CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE LAW DURING EACH 12-MONTH REPORTING PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TITLE 1, CHAPTER 174.

THE "OVERALL PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF PROGRAM" AS WELL AS THE "CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REPORTING FORM FOR APPOINTMENTS 2006" CAN BE VIEWED AND DOWNLOADED BY GOING TO THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE WWW.EPCOUNTY.COM. ON THE MURAL, CLICK ON "DIRECTORY", THEN CLICK ON THE LETTER "C" , SCROLL AND CLICK ON "COUNCIL OF JUDGES ADM.", UNDER THE HEADING OF "COUNCIL OF JUDGES ADM." CLICK ON "FORMS". THERE YOU WILL FIND THE PROGRAM AND FORM.

THE CLE REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO OUR OFFICE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS BY DECEMBER 31, 2006. THIS FORM WAS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF JUDGES ON OCTOBER 27, 2005.