

OPEN HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT— Criminal Justice Act and Mentorship Program

The Court protects Sixth Amendment rights and facilitates indigent defense through implementation of the Criminal Justice Act. Part of managing the Panel of private CJA lawyers includes development of interest in future Panel membership. To that end, the Court has approved a Mentorship Program. That Program offers a path for acquiring federal defense experience under the tutelage of an established Panel lawyer.

The Court's CJA Committee¹, which administers the Act in this District, will hold two Open Houses regarding the Mentorship Program. These are informal opportunities to speak to Committee members regarding the Mentorship Program, Panel operation generally, and opportunities for participation. Judge Atkins, Patrick Nash and Robert Abell will host the Lexington event, and Judge Wier and Christy Love will host the London event.

If you are a practitioner interested in the Mentorship Program or in the Panel more generally, please feel welcome to attend an Open House. The events have no agenda or formal structure and simply offer a chance to ask questions, meet Committee members, and understand the mechanics and process of the Mentorship Program, an element of the District's CJA Plan.

The details:

LONDON EVENT

June 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

London Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room (1st Floor)

LEXINGTON EVENT

June 20, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

Lexington Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room (1st Floor)

Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or just starting your legal career, each event provides a chance to connect with Judges and Panel lawyers involved in tending the right to effective assistance of counsel in this District.

The Mentorship Program and the CJA Plan are available documents on the Court's public website. If you plan to attend or have questions about the events, please contact Michelle Sliter in the London Clerk's Office.

¹ Made up of divisional panel representatives, CJA Resource Counsel, and three judges from the Court.