

JOIN THE FIGHT!

GROW YOUR LEGAL PRACTICE AND HELP CHILDREN AND PARENTS IN NEED! APPLY FOR OUR CAFL TRIAL PANEL CERTIFICATION TRAINING!

The Children and Family Law Division (CAFL) of the Committee for Public Counsel Services is seeking qualified attorneys to represent children and indigent parents in care and protection/termination of parental rights and child requiring assistance (CRA) cases in the Juvenile Court.

CAFL offers attorneys difficult yet rewarding work with clients in urgent need of zealous representation. Certified attorneys will be assigned to represent children and parents in state intervention cases, which often start with an ex parte petition filed by the Department of Children and Families. Immediate responsibilities include preparing for potential emergency custody hearings within 72 hours of an ex parte order. These cases can last 15 months or longer. If you are up for this challenge, please apply for our upcoming training!

Attorneys accepted into this training will receive a "Certification Payment" of \$5032 upon the following: 1) successful completion of the CAFL Trial Panel Certification Training; 2) receiving appointments on 12 care and protection cases within 18 months of certification; and 3) submission of 500 hours of billing on care and protection cases within 18 months of certification.

Applications are due on February 7, 2025, but will be accepted on a rolling basis until the training is filled.

Interested attorneys can find more information and apply <u>HERE</u>.



IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR INTERESTED ATTORNEYS

CERTIFICATION TRAINING: The training will include a brief orientation on Zoom on **March 12, 2025,** followed by a hybrid training presented on dates between **March 17, 2025** and **April 14, 2025.** The training is a mix of five full day in-person sessions, three half-day live zoom sessions, and substantial self-directed learning. The training concludes with a full day in-person mock temporary custody hearing. Please find a full list of training dates and time <u>here</u>.

ASSIGNMENT: Attorneys will be assigned to cases, which often start with an ex parte petition filed by the Department of Children and Families. Immediate responsibilities include preparing for potential emergency custody hearings within 72 hours of an ex parte order. These cases can last 15 months or longer.

COMPENSATION: Private attorneys will be paid **\$85/hour** for Care and Protection/Termination of Parental Rights cases and **\$65/hour** for CRA matters.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS: Attorneys must adhere to CAFL's performance standards and meet other requirements outlined in the CPCS *Assigned Counsel Manual.* Those standards and requirements can be found <u>here</u>.

SUPPORT: New panel members will be assigned a mentor who provides support, introduces them to court personnel, helps them learn local practices, attends initial court hearings, and offers assistance.

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions about becoming a member of the CAFL Trial Panel, the certification process, or the upcoming training, please contact CAFLattorney@publiccounsel.net.

INTERESTED? APPLY HERE BY FEBRUARY 7, 2025!