

CPCS Bar Advocate Training Program
“Zealous Advocacy in the District Courts”

To apply for admission to the CPCS Bar Advocate Training Program, follow these steps:

1. Complete this *Basic Application for Admission*
2. Send one copy of this completed application to each county bar advocate program to which you wish to apply (list of bar advocate programs attached)
3. Send one copy of this completed application to the CPCS Training Unit to kmunichiello@publiccounsel.net
4. Contact the individual bar advocate programs to determine the status of your application and whether you need to submit additional information
5. The Bar Advocate Programs will notify the CPCS Training Unit if and when you are accepted into that program’s panel of attorneys
6. CPCS Training Unit will review your application and notify you if and when you have been accepted into the Training Program. **(Acceptance into a County Bar Advocate Program does not guarantee acceptance into the CPCS Training Program)**

Please note: Attorneys are not eligible to accept appointments through Bar Advocate Programs, in criminal cases, while simultaneously employed by a prosecutor’s office or other law enforcement agency. In addition, if you accept employment with a prosecutor’s office or other law enforcement agency after submitting an application for admission to a Bar Advocate Program, you must update your application by providing written notice of that fact to each Bar Advocate Program to which you have applied and the CPCS Training Unit.

Please complete all of the following:

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Firm Name: _____

Office Address: _____

If you do not have office space, please state your intentions regarding arrangements for meeting with clients. Absence of office/meeting space may delay your acceptance into the Training Program.

Office Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

BBO Number: _____

Date of Admission to Massachusetts Bar: _____

While you may apply to a Bar Advocate Program for admission prior to being admitted to the Bar, you must be a member of the Massachusetts Bar and have a BBO number before CPCS will place you in the Zealous Advocacy in the District Courts Training Program

Law School(s) and Date of graduation: _____

Bar Advocate program(s) to which you intend to apply: _____

(listing of Bar Advocate Programs located on last page of application)

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND (please answer all questions (question #9 is optional) – attach additional sheets if necessary) (incomplete applications will not be considered)

1. Describe your educational and employment history. (please attach resume)
2. Are you currently employed, either as a volunteer, or salaried employee, full or part-time, by either a prosecutor's office or other law enforcement agency? _____ If answer is yes, please describe your plans regarding maintaining such employment.
3. Have you ever been disbarred, suspended, reprimanded, censured or otherwise formally disciplined, publicly, or privately, by a licensing authority, public employer, or assigned counsel program, as an attorney or as a member of any other profession or as a holder of public office? _____ (If answer is yes, please explain)
4. Are any charges or complaints now pending before any court or agency concerning your conduct as an attorney, or as a member of any other profession, or as a holder of any public office? ____ (if answer is yes, please explain)
5. Do you speak any foreign languages? If so, state language(s) and level of proficiency and fluency.
6. The Committee for Public Counsel Services is committed to assuring that the panel of attorneys accepting criminal assignments is sensitive to the diversity of the defendant population it serves and is committed to criminal defense. Why do you seek certification to take criminal assignments in the district court? What background, experience, and perspectives would you bring to the panel to further the goals of having a diverse panel that provides high-quality legal representation? (Please answer these questions in two pages or less of text).
7. What steps have you taken to educate yourself about factors that marginalize people, what those factors are, and how they may impact the clients you will represent?
8. What education or training will you find helpful to your practice as you engage in the representation of clients of a different race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background from your own, and those with lived experiences different from yours.
9. *Optional (failure to answer this question will not impact your application):* Please provide us with any additional information you wish to bring to CPCS's attention that was not already covered by the previous questions about your suitability and commitment to take court assignments.

Date _____

CPCS Private Counsel Division
County Bar Advocate Program FY24

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