

What is HCCLA?



Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association, a nonprofit, tax-exempt professional association, comprises lawyers from Harris County, Texas and elsewhere who are working to promote excellence and high ideals in the practice of criminal law. Any lawyer who is actively engaged in the defense of criminal cases and is endorsed by a member may join HCCLA.

Our mission is to assist, support, and protect the criminal defense practitioner in the zealous defense of individuals and their Constitutional rights. It is further our mission to educate and inform the general public regarding the administration of criminal justice and the need for an independent, ethical, and professional criminal defense bar.

What does a member do?

- Participates and exchanges information and skills in our CLE programs and listserve.
- Participates in the Second Chair Program.
- Performs agreed *pro bono* service.
- Brings to the Association's attention proper grievances in the practice that merit response and action.

What does HCCLA do for the defense bar?

- Publishes *The Defender*, a quarterly newsletter addressing topics of interest to the criminal defense bar.
- Provides a responsive local forum for lawyers actively engaged in the practice of criminal law.
- Opposes legislation and local rules that infringe on individual rights protected by constitutional guarantees.
- Promotes a productive exchange of ideas and encourages better communication with prosecutors and the judiciary.
- Provides continuing legal education programs for improving advocacy skills and knowledge.
- Promotes a just application of the court appointed lawyer system for indigent persons charged with criminal offenses.
- Files amicus curiae briefs in support of freedom and human rights.
- Provides referrals through our lawyer referral service and through our membership directory.

APPLICATION

Applicant Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Cell: _____ SBN: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Type of membership (dues)

- Regular Membership: \$150
- Public Defender (Federal/State/Local): \$75*
- New Criminal Defense Lawyer: \$75 *First Year Only (must be within two years of beginning criminal defense practice)*
- Senior (age 70+): \$75
- Paralegal/Legal Assistant: \$50**
- Student: \$25 *Expected Graduation Date: _____*

* Must be employed by a Public Defender's Office

** Must be employed as paralegal/legal assistant by a Regular Member

_____ Date _____ Signature of Applicant

Endorsement

(Must be completed by all New Members and Former Members whose membership has lapsed by more than 2 years):

I, a member in good standing of HCCLA, believe this applicant to be a person of professional competency, integrity and good moral character. The applicant is actively engaged in the defense of criminal cases.

_____ Date _____ Signature of Endorsing Member

_____ Printed Name of Endorsing Member

Payment

- Check payable to HCCLA

Mail to: P.O. Box 924523
Houston, Texas 77292-4523

- Credit Card

Fax completed application to: 713.869.5051

_____ Credit Card Number

_____ Expiration Date _____ CVC#

_____ Name on Card

_____ Signature