



Contra Costa County

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Administrator

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Contra Costa County Requests Proposals for Indigent Criminal Defense Services

Contra Costa County is seeking proposals from qualified bidders interested in providing legal representation services to indigent defendants in criminal and juvenile delinquency proceedings that cannot be represented by the County. The County, through the Public Defender and Alternate Defender offices, provides legal representation to indigent clients in criminal matters, but in some instances cannot provide that representation due to a conflict of interest or unavailability.

Proposals may be submitted by a legal services provider qualified to administer, maintain, and provide legal representation in criminal and juvenile delinquency proceedings at all criminal and juvenile delinquency court locations throughout Contra Costa County. Legal services providers may submit proposals using one of two organizational models, each of which may include subcontracting, as outlined below and further described in the request for proposals:

- 1. Administered Panel:** An entity that assembles a panel of independent attorneys that provide representation of indigent clients referred by the Court that cannot be represented by the Public Defender or Alternate Defender's offices.
- 2. Staffed Law Firm:** A law firm that administers representation of indigent clients referred by the Court that cannot be represented by the Public Defender or Alternate Defender's offices.

The successful bidder will be required to track attorney caseloads, billable hours and establish a bill review process. In addition, the successful bidder will demonstrate effective administrative oversight to ensure the quality and adequacy of representation, including courtroom coverage, for both attorney and non-attorney staff. The County intends to award a three-year contract, with options to renew, to the selected bidder.

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2019. Electronic versions of the request for proposals are accessible on the county website at <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/7239/Criminal-Conflict-Program>. Questions regarding the request for proposals should be directed to Senior Deputy County Administrator Paul Reyes at (925) 335-1096 or paul.reyes@cao.cccounty.us.