



February 8, 2021

CHAIR:
The Honorable Sharon Keller
Presiding Judge
Court of Criminal Appeals

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:
Honorable Sharon Keller
Honorable Nathan Hecht
Honorable John Whitmire
Honorable Brandon Creighton
Honorable Nicole Collier
Honorable Reggie Smith
Honorable Sherry Radack
Honorable Vivian Torres

MEMBERS APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR:
Mr. Alex Bunin
Honorable Richard Evans
Mr. Gonzalo Rios
Honorable Missy Medary
Honorable Valerie Covey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Geoffrey Burkhardt

Dear County Stakeholders:

The Texas Indigent Defense Commission announces the availability of grant funds for Texas counties for new programs to improve indigent defense services. The Indigent Defense Improvement Grant Program funds new programs and is separate from any formula grant your county may receive.

The Request for Applications (RFA) is available on TIDC's website at <http://www.tidc.texas.gov/funding/improvement-grants/> and provides information and instructions on the competitive application process for these funds. The deadline for final applications is **May 7, 2021** for programs beginning October 1, 2021.

Examples of eligible programs include public defender offices, managed assigned counsel programs, mental health defender programs, and indigent defense coordinators. Programs may be single-county or regional and most require county matching funds.

Please contact TIDC staff to explore funding opportunities and any ideas for programs focused on improving indigent defense. I can be reached at 512-228-8807 or ecolfax@tidc.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Edwin Colfax
Director of Grant Funding