National Legal Aid & Defender Association

100 YEARS

Nominations Booklet

Elections 2012

Throw your hat in the ring!

NLADA 100 YEARS National Legal Aid & Defender Association

EQUAL JUSTICE.
OF THE PEOPLE.
FOR THE PEOPLE.

July 18, 2012

Dear NLADA Members:

We would like to inform you that the nomination period for positions on NLADA's civil and defender policy groups has been extended to August 10.

NLADA is our voice in the national arena on significant issues that directly impact the civil and defender legal services communities. The policy groups influence the direction of the association as they craft policies and determine what products and services will best serve our members. **It is critical that we, as NLADA members, take seriously our responsibility to provide guidance and leadership through the policy groups. The ability of the association to effectively serve its communities depends on attracting strong, committed and diverse candidates to serve on these governing bodies.**

Enclosed, you will find a description of the positions that are open for nomination and the criteria that must be met by each nominee. We urge you to nominate a colleague or yourself to run for election to one of these positions. **Please circulate this notice to your staff and clients so that they may fully participate in the election process.** Widespread circulation encourages more inclusive and democratic elections, a goal we all share. Contact Carol Ponce at c.ponce@nlada.org if you need an electronic (e-mail) version of this booklet.

Send all nominations to NLADA's Leadership Development Committee, 1140 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036. Thank you in advance for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

NLADA Leadership Development Committee

Since 1911, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) has been the only national membership organization devoted exclusively to advocating equal justice for all. Representing legal aid and public defender programs, as well as individual advocates, NLADA serves as a national voice in public policy and legislative debates on the many issues affecting the equal justice community. NLADA also provides a wide range of services to its members to expand effective legal assistance to those who cannot otherwise afford counsel.

Notice to Members

Nomination shall be by written petition. Self-nomination is permissible. One is not required to be a member of the association in order to be nominated, but if elected must become a member and maintain that membership throughout his/her term. A nomination form that specifies the information requested is included for your convenience.

Job descriptions and qualifications for the positions are also included. The election shall be conducted according to the following timetable:

2012 Election Timetable and Procedure

June 20	Notification to the membership of election; solicitation of nominations
August 10	Receipt of nominations in NLADA office
August 27	Ballots mailed to eligible voters
September 21	Ballots received in NLADA office

Candidates shall be certified and placed on the ballot by NLADA's Leadership Development Committee when:

- Their qualifications have been reviewed, based on the relevant job description.
- It has been determined that they have met the objective criteria for positions on the Policy Groups and Board.

Nominations must be received by NLADA no later than August 10.

2012 Elections

Note: the incumbents in italics are not eligible to run for that position due to term limits or change of professional status.

Civil Policy Group

Position*	Term	Expires	How selected	Current Member
Chief staff officer (CSO) (region I)	3 years	2015	Elected by CSOs (region I)	Steve Eppler-Epstein
Chief staff officer (CSO) (region IV)	3 years	2015	Elected by CSOs (region IV)	*Allison Thompson*
Client representative (regions III & IV)	3 years	2015	Elected by clients active in program members (regions III & IV)	Jennifer Sommer
Civil member (non-CSO/non-client)	3 years	2015	Elected by civil individual members	*Betty Torres*

*Pursuant to section 7.2.1 of the Bylaws, persons who are elected or appointed to the Civil Policy Group shall maintain current Individual Membership in the Association throughout their terms on the Civil Policy Group. Pursuant to section 7.2.2a of the Bylaws, Chief Staff Officers must be employed by a Civil Program member.

Defender Policy Group

Position*	Term	Expires	How selected	Current Member
Chief defender or director of defender program	3 years	2015	Elected by CSOs of defender programs	*Gary Windom*
Chief defender or director of defender program	3 years	2015	Elected by CSOs of defender programs	T. Patton Adams
Defender staff**	3 years	2015	Elected by defender individual members	*Lori James-Townes*

*Pursuant to section 8.2.1 of the Bylaws, persons who are elected or appointed to the Defender Policy Group shall maintain current Individual Membership in the Association throughout their terms on the Defender Policy Group. Pursuant to section 8.2.2a of the Bylaws, Chief Defenders or Directors of Defender Programs must be employed by a Defender Program member.

**Defender Staff – any person who spends at least 50% of his or her time in the direct delivery of indigent defense services.

Regions are as follows:

Region I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands);

Region II (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia);

Region III (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin);

Region IV (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee);

Region V (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah);

Region VI (Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Micronesia, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming)

Civil Policy Group Member Job Description

Title	Member, NLADA Civil Policy Group (CPG)
Reports to	Civil Policy Group chair
Purpose	To serve the Policy Group as a voting member; to develop and formulate policy recommendations on civil legal services issues to the NLADA Board of Directors
Term	Three years

Meeting attendance (expected)

- Regularly attend meetings as scheduled (three per year, one by teleconference; approximately four days per year)
- Attend standing committee meetings, if a member
- Participate as an ad hoc committee member, if appointed
- Attend and participate in special/social events as needed (Annual Conference, three days per year)
- Promote membership in the association
- Participate in conference calls between meetings

Responsibilities of the Civil Policy Group

- Formulate civil policy recommendations for the association
- Assist in the attainment of the association's mission and governance
- Direct and assist staff in carrying out the civil agenda of NLADA

Specific duties

- Be a strong spokesperson for the association
- Determine, monitor and strengthen programs and services, consistent with the Bylaws of the association
- Enhance the association's public standing
- Recruit and orient new CPG members
- Perform duties of CPG members to advance the mission of the association without personal or professional conflicts

Qualifications

- Must be an NLADA member as required by the Bylaws
- Committed to advancing NLADA's mission and goals, include dedicating one's time, experience, skills and personal finance (within means)
- Value "team" mentality
- Willingness to participate and learn duties

Defender Policy Group Job Description

Title	Member, NLADA Defender Policy Group (DPG)
Reports to	Defender Policy Group chair
Purpose	To serve as a Defender Policy Group voting member; to develop and formulate policy recommendations on indigent defense issues to the NLADA Board of Directors
Term	Three years

Meeting attendance (expected)

- Regularly attend meetings as scheduled (three per year, one by teleconference; approximately four days per year)
- Attend standing committee meetings, if a member
- Participate as an ad hoc committee member, if appointed
- Attend and participate in special/social events as needed (Annual Conference, three days per year)
- Promote NLADA membership
- Participate in conference calls between meetings

Responsibilities of the Defender Policy Group

- Formulate indigent defense policy recommendations for the association
- Assist in the attainment of the association's mission and governance
- Direct and assist staff in carrying out the defender agenda of NLADA

Specific duties

- Serve as an association spokesperson
- Determine, monitor and strengthen programs and services, consistent with the NLADA Bylaws
- Enhance the association's public standing
- Recruit and orient new DPG members
- Perform duties of DPG members to advance the mission of the association without personal or professional conflicts

Qualifications

- Must be an NLADA member as required by the Bylaws
- Committed to advancing NLADA's mission and goals, include dedicating one's time, experience, skills and personal finance (within means)
- Value "team" mentality
- Willingness to participate and learn duties

2012 Nomination Form

How to nominate a distinguished colleague for membership on the Civil or Defender Policy Group?

1. Prepare a statement containing highlights of the nominee's career as well as additional reasons you feel he or she deserves to be a member of the Policy Group. The statement should be no more than one page and double-spaced.
2. Attach the nominee's resume (two-page maximum).
3. Forward the nomination package to the Leadership Development Committee, NLADA, 1140 Connecticut Avenue NW, 900, Washington, DC 20036 or fax to (202) 872-1031.

Please check only one position and print legibly

Nominee's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____ Email _____

Tel: (W) _____ FAX (W)_____ (H/Cell) _____

The above person is being nominated for the following position:

Civil Policy Group*	Defender Policy Group*
❑ Chief Staff Officer Region I* ❑ Chief Staff Officer Region IV* ❑ Client Representative Regions III & IV** ❑ Civil Member (non-CSO/non-client)	❑ Chief Defender or Director of Defender Program (two vacancies) ❑ Defender Staff

Nominations must be received by NLADA no later than August 10.

*Pursuant to the Bylaws, persons who are elected to the Board and Policy Groups shall maintain current Individual Membership in the Association throughout their terms. An individual need not be a member to be nominated, but must be a member once elected. In addition, pursuant to sections 7.2.2a of the Bylaws, Chief Staff Officers must be employed by a Civil Program member and pursuant to section 8.2.2a of the Bylaws, Chief Defenders or Directors of Defender Programs must be employed by a Defender Program member.

**Region I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands); Region II (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia); Region III (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin); Region IV (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee); Region V (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah); Region VI (Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Micronesia, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming).

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