

### **Instructions for MCPDS Application for Homicide Matters:**

1. Before beginning this application, review the applicable eligibility requirements outlined in [Chapter 3 of the Commission rules](#).
2. Applications must be typed and submitted using the fillable PDF document provided. Handwritten applications will NOT be considered.
3. Carefully read and complete *all* required fields. Incomplete applications will NOT be considered.
4. You must submit proof of completion of the CLE requirement with this application. Applications without the proof of completion will NOT be considered.
5. If you are requesting a waiver your references must submit their letters directly to the Executive Director at [PDS@Maine.gov](mailto:PDS@Maine.gov). Your application will NOT be considered until all three letters are received by MCPDS.
6. Please submit your completed application to the Executive Director at [PDS@Maine.gov](mailto:PDS@Maine.gov).

**Maine Commission on Public Defense Services**

**Chapter 3: Eligibility Requirements for Specialized Case Types**

**Attorney's Name:**

**Bar Number:**

**1. Application for Homicide Assignments**

A. Practice Experience: Do you have at least five years of criminal defence practice experience?  
Yes                      No                      How many: year(s) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s) \_\_\_\_\_

If your answer to (A) is no, are you requesting a waiver from this requirement? Yes                      No  
If you are requesting a waiver please provide information explaining the need for a waiver and your experience and qualifications to provide representation for individuals charged with Homicide.

B. Trial/Litigation Experience:

a. Have you tried before a jury, individually or as co-counsel at least five felony cases within the last ten years?  
Yes                      No                      How many? \_\_\_\_\_

i. Are at least two of these five felony cases Major Felonies, Homicide, or Class C or higher Sex Offense cases?  
Yes                      No                      How many? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Have you tried before a jury, individually or as co-counsel, at least one Homicide case in the last fifteen years;  
Yes                      No

If your answer to any question under (B) is no, are you requesting a waiver from this requirement? Yes                      No

If you are requesting a waiver please provide information explaining the need for a waiver and your experience and qualifications to provide representation for individuals charged with Homicide.

C. Please outline your knowledge and familiarity with the evidentiary issues relevant to homicide cases, including but not limited to forensic and scientific issues relating to DNA testing and fingerprint analysis, mental health issues, and eyewitness identification.

D. Please outline your reasons for interest in and qualifications for representing individuals charged with homicide.

E. Provide the names of attorneys with whom you do not practice who will be submitting letters of reference directly to MCPDS that describe your qualifications to represent individuals charged with homicide, including OUI manslaughter.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

F. I Certify that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with all Commission Rules and Standards of Practice.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

G. If the applicant seeks a waiver, the applicant shall submit three letters of reference from attorneys, at least one of whom does not work within the same firm as applicant, asserting that the applicant is qualified to provide representation in appeal cases. The letters of reference must be submitted directly to the Executive Director by the authors. Applicants may alternatively submit the names and contact information for five attorneys willing to provide references if contacted by PDS staff directly. At least two of these references must be attorneys who do not work within the same firm as the applicant.