

# Washtenaw County Bar Association

## MODEST MEANS PANELIST REGISTRATION - 2024

### ATTORNEY APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS A:

Panel Attorney      AND/OR       Mentor Attorney

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Firm \_\_\_\_\_ Year admitted to Michigan Bar \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ P# \_\_\_\_\_

Fluent in languages other than English? (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK CATEGORIES BELOW INDICATING AREAS OF LAW WITH WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR AND QUALIFIED TO PRACTICE AND IN WHICH YOU WILL ACCEPT REFERRALS AS A MODEST MEANS PANELIST:**

#### FAMILY

- \_\_\_ MMF01 Divorce, No Children
- \_\_\_ MMF02 Divorce, Children
- \_\_\_ MMF03 Annulment
- \_\_\_ MMF04 Separate Maintenance
- \_\_\_ MMF05 Post-Divorce, Custody or  
Parenting Time
- \_\_\_ MMF06 Custody
- \_\_\_ MMF07 Child Support
- \_\_\_ MMF08 Paternity
- \_\_\_ MMF09 Grandparents' Rights

**PLEASE READ AND SIGN REVERSE SIDE OF THIS REGISTRATION**

Return this form with a copy of the declarations page of your professional liability insurance policy to the Washtenaw County Bar Association, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

**You must be a member of the LRIS to be a Modest Means Panel Attorney.**

OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

THE ASSOCIATE \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATION: I have read and am familiar with the LRIS rules and certify that I am qualified for appointment to the Family Law panel under the rules.

- 1) I agree to be bound by all the rules governing the LRIS, with the exception of rule #4 (The LRIS will not collect any percentage fees on Modest Means cases.), together with any additional rules as may be adopted by the MMP.
- 2) I embrace the goals stated in the rules and agree to provide legal services at **no more than \$75 per hour** and a **maximum of \$750 refundable retainer** consistent with the financial ability of the clients referred. I understand that fees for services provided by Mentor Attorneys, if charged, may not be passed on to the client unless the client agrees in advance and in writing to assume responsibility for these fees.
- 3) If applying for appointment as a **Panel Attorney**, I agree to:
  - a. Enter into a written fee agreement with the client;
  - b. Personally handle the client's matter;
  - c. Not charge for the first half hour consultation (even if retained);
  - d. Consult with a Mentor Attorney available to me through the Modest Means Program, if less than 3 years of practice in Family Law, and to comply with State of Michigan Rule of Professional Conduct 1.1 regarding competence; and
  - e. Notify the Modest Means Program administrator if I am unable to obtain adequate support from any Mentor Attorney assigned to me so that another Mentor Attorney can be assigned.
- 4) If applying for appointment as a **Mentor Attorney**, I certify that:
  - a. I understand that I will not be entering into an attorney-client relationship with the Panel Attorneys' clients, but will nonetheless be directly contributing to the provision and improvement of legal services in Washtenaw County;
  - b. I will maintain communication with and be reasonably available to those Panel Attorneys that are assigned to me and provide consultation, advice, and review of the practice and relationship with the assigned Modest Means Program clients as requested or desired by such Panel Attorneys;
  - c. I will retain the client confidences revealed to me by the Panel Attorney in connection with such consultations;
  - d. I will report to the Panel Attorney and to the Modest Means Program administrator any difficulties of which I am aware in either the services being rendered to the client, the relationship between the Panel Attorney and myself, or my ability to continue as a Mentor Attorney; and
  - e. I will maintain my competence in the area of Family Law at a level qualifying me for placement as a mentor on the Family Law Modest Means Program.

Yes – I need to have a Mentor Attorney appointed to me as stated in Rule #3. This mentor will change with each case.

No – I do not need a Mentor Attorney as I have 3 or more years of family law practice experience.

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Signature of Attorney Applicant

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Date

**Please include a copy of your declarations page even if you are only a Mentor Attorney.**