



DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, CHAMARAJANAGAR

DISTRICT COURT COMPLEX, CHAMARAJANAGAR

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To. No. 877/25

dated: 03.06.2025

(NOTIFICATION NO. 05/2025, DATED: 03.06.2025)

Calling for Applications for the posts of Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel to work in the Office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel System.

LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS : 19.06.2025

(Candidate who desires to apply through speed post or in an envelope personally in the Office of Member Secretary, DLSA should reach this office on or before 16.06.2025 by 05.00 p.m.. Any application received after the due date shall not be considered)

As per the Legal Aid Defense Counsel System – Modified Scheme 2022 formulated by National Legal Services Authority, for providing legal aid, assistance and representation in criminal matters in line with “Public Defender System”, **“Full – time Legal Aid Defense Counsel System”** has been set up in the district.

1. The scope of work :

Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office shall be dealing exclusively with legal aided matter in criminal matters of the District Head Quarters, wherein it is established. It shall be providing legal services from the early stages of criminal justice till appellate stage, and the same shall include visits to jails from catering to the legal needs of unrepresented inmates. Initially, it shall not be dealing with all type of civil matters and cases of complainant, wherein present counsel assignment system (Panel Lawyers) will continue to be operational. The Counsel appointed shall involve fulltime with the system and they are not allowed to take any private cases or any other retainership. The Legal Aid Defense Counsels are required to scrupulously perform the work

profiles and follow the code of ethics as enumerated in the “Legal Aid Defense Counsel System-Modified Scheme-2022”.

The following end to end legal services shall be provided through the Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office :

- o Legal Advice and Assistance to all individuals visiting the office,
- o Representation/Conducting trial and appeals including all miscellaneous work in all Sessions, Special and Magistrate Courts including executive courts.
- o Handling Remand and Bail Work
- o Providing Legal Assistance at pre-arrest stage as per NALSA's scheme for providing such assistance
- o Periodic visit of Prisons of the district under the guidance of the Secretary, DLSA.
- o Any other legal aided work related to District Courts or as assigned by the Secretary, DLSA.

2. Vacancy of Posts :

As per the directions of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, KSLSA, following posts will be filled up on contract basis for a period of two years on monthly salary, with a stipulation of extension on yearly basis upon satisfactory performance.

Details of the posts called for is as follows :-

Sl. No.	Posts called for	No. of Vacancies	Honararim (Retainership Fee)
1.	Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	01	As per Guidelines in Legal Aid Defense Counsel Modified Scheme, 2022
2.	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	01	
3.	Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel	01	

3. Selection procedure :

After the receipt of applications, a fair, transparent and competitive selection process will be adopted by DLSA under the guidance of Hon'ble KSLSA and under the Chairmanship of the Principal District and Sessions Judge (Chairman, DLSA) as envisaged in NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations 2010 and KSLSA Standard Operating Procedures for selection and working of Panel Lawyers/Retainer Lawyers/Remand Advocates/Duty Lawyers /Stipend Advocates/Monitoring And Mentoring Committees In The DLSAs And The TLSCs subject to final approval by the Executive Chairman, KSLSA. Legal Aid Defense Counsels shall be engaged on contract basis in each place / district intially for a period of two years

with a stipulation of extension on yearly basis on satisfactory performance. Selection of Legal Aid Defense Counsels will be purely based on merit, taking into account the knowledge, skills, practice and experience of candidates.

4. Qualifications :

Separate qualifications is prescribed for the Legal Aid Defense Counsels which is as follows :

A)	QUALIFICATIONS FOR CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL:
	Practice in Criminal law for at least 10 years, Excellent oral and written communication skills, Excellent understanding of criminal law, Thorough understanding of ethical duties of Defense counsel, Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others with capability to lead, Must have handled at least 30 criminal trials in Sessions Courts, aforesaid condition of handling of 30 criminal cases can be relaxed in appropriate circumstances, Knowledge of computer system, preferable, Quality to lead the team with capacity to manage the office.
B)	QUALIFICATIONS FOR Deputy CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL:
	Practice in Criminal law for at least 7 years, Excellent understanding of criminal law, Excellent oral and written communication skills, Skill in legal research, Thorough understanding of ethical duties of Defense counsel, Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others, Must have handled at least 20 criminal trials in Sessions Courts, may be relaxed in exceptional circumstances, by Hon'ble Executive Chairman, KSLSA IT Knowledge with proficiency in work.
C)	QUALIFICATIONS FOR Assistant LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL:
	Practice in criminal law from 0 to 3 years. Good oral and written communication skills. Thorough understanding of ethical duties of Defense counsel. Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others Excellent writing and research skills. IT Knowledge with proficiency in work.

5. Work Profile :

1.	Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	➤ Conducting trials and appeals and bail matters in courts along with Deputy Chief and Assistant legal aid Defense Counsels, ➤ Assigning duties to Deputy legal Aid Defense Counsels in the office, ➤ Assigning duties of Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel for assisting him and Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and for other work including legal research, ➤ Ensure proper legal research, planning effective defence strategy and thorough preparation in each and every legal aided case, ➤ Ensure maintenance of complete files of legal aid seekers, ➤ Ensure proper documentation with regard to legal aid assistance provided, ensure maintaining of up to date record of legal aided cases, ➤ Will be overall incharge of administration of the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office, ➤ Ensure quality of legal aid, ➤ Consultation and ensuring updation of the case progress to the client and his / her relative(s), ➤ Any work / duty assigned by Legal Services Authority, ➤ As per the directions of KSLSA/DLSA, must conduct and participate in the Legal Services Programmes and other activities.
2.	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	➤ Conducting trials / appeals / Remand work / Bail applications/ visits to prisons etc., as assigned by Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel. ➤ Filing and arguing appeals and bail applications in Courts. ➤ Maintaining complete case files. ➤ Doing legal research in legal aided cases and guiding Assistant legal Aid Defense Counsel and law students attached with the office in legal research.

		➤ Proper client interviews at various stages for quality research work and representation at remand, trial and appellate stage. ➤ All or any of the work of the Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel as per assignment. ➤ Any work / duty assigned by Legal Service Authority. ➤ As per the directions of KSLSA/DLSA, must conduct and participate in the Legal Services Programmes and other activities.
3.	Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel	➤ Filing of cases, conducting trials to Magistrate Trial cases. ➤ Remand / Bail and other miscellaneous work ➤ Legal research in legal aided cases. ➤ Visits to Prison and Legal Aid Clinics as per directions. ➤ Providing assistance at pre – arrest stage to suspects. ➤ Assisting Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel in conduct of legal aided cases. ➤ Assisting in developing a Defense strategy after sifting through all of the evidence collected by the prosecution and after hearing the accused's version of what happened during the alleged crime in question. ➤ Visiting location / area of alleged crime, having discussions with family members etc., for effective and meaningful input for defense strategy. ➤ Handling queries of legal aid seekers. ➤ Updating legal aid seekers about the progress of their cases. ➤ Assisting in maintaining complete files of legal aided cases. ➤ Handling legal queries relating to criminal matters on telephone. ➤ Any other work related to legal aid assigned by Chief Legal Aid defense Counsel. ➤ Any work / duty assigned by Legal Service Authority, ➤ As per the directions of KSLSA/DLSA, must conduct and participate in the Legal Services

		Programmes and other activities.
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6. Leave entitlement :

Deputy Legal Aid Defense shall be eligible for 15 days' leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis.

Assistant Counsel Legal Aid Defense Counsel and other staff shall be eligible for 12 days' leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis.

No remuneration for the period of absence in excess of the admissible leave will be paid to the human resource of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office. Un-availed leave shall neither be carried forward to next year nor encashed.

7. Termination of service :

Services of any legal aid defense counsel engaged in the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel can be terminated at any time, without any prior notice in the following cases, by the Chairman of DLSA, on recommendation of the Member Secretary of DLSA or on directions by Hon'ble KSLSA in writing:

He/she substantially breaches any duty or service required in the office.

Seeks or accepts any pecuniary gains from the legal aid seekers or beneficiary or his friend or relative.

Charged or Convicted for any offence.

Indulges in any type of political activities.

Found incapable of rendering professional services of the required standards.

Failure to attend training programmes without any sufficient cause.

Indulges in activities prejudicial to the working of legal aid defense counsel office.

Using his/her position in legal aid defense counsel office to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for him/herself or others.

Acts in breach of code of ethics.

Remains absent without leave for more than two weeks or

If services are found unsatisfactory during the six monthly performance review by the Hon'ble KSLSA or DLSA.

If found taking any other private cases or any other retainership during the contractual period.

NOTE: *The Person appointed as a Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall perform their duties with utmost good faith and subject to monitoring by the District Legal Services Authority and Karnataka State Legal Services Authority.*

The applications completes in all respects accompanied by self attested copies of relevant academic records, testimonials etc., shall reach the **Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, ADR Building, District Court Premises, Chamarajanagar**, on or before **05.00 p.m. of 19.06.2025**. Candidate who desires to apply through speed post or in an envelope personally in the Office of Member Secretary, DLSA should reach this office on or before 16.06.2025 by 05.00 p.m.

Applications sent through post shall be superscribed as **“APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL/DEPUTY CHIEF LEGAL AID ASSISTANT COUNSEL/Assistant LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL”**.

Separate applications need to be submitted for separate post. Applications received beyond the date so fixed will be rejected.

The Authority reserves its right to reject incomplete applications or applications for want of furnishing full information as per the notification or if it is found that the information furnished are false.

Applying for engagement does not create any right / assurance whatsoever.

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(PRABHAVATHI G.)
Chairman,
District Legal Services Authority and
Prl. District and Sessions Judge,
Chamarajanagar