

CORPUS CHRISTI BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE RULES & ATTORNEY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- A. Referrals will be made on a rotating basis to the lawyers who practice in the area of law in which the caller needs assistance.
- B. No more than \$20.00 may be charged to any client referred by LRS for the first conference consuming not more than one-half hour. That charge is for consultation and advice only. Compensation for additional services will be arranged with the client.
- C. In cases where the only service performed is the initial consultation, the lawyer providing the service will forward \$10.00 to LRS.
- D. Where additional work is to be performed by the lawyer, \$20.00 will be forwarded by the lawyer to LRS. Where a fee of \$500.00 or more is earned, the regular fee of \$20 plus 10% of the fee earned be forwarded to LRS.
- E. All fees owed to LRS will be forwarded to LRS within twenty (20) working days of receipt of payment by the lawyer.
- F. Any client referred by LRS to a lawyer must be given an appointment as soon as practicable after a request for an appointment is made.
- G. Any lawyer on the LRS Panel who willfully fails to pay any fee, render any report, or otherwise fails to comply with the rules of LRS may be removed from the LRS Panel with no refund for the lawyer's unexpired term on the LRS Panel.
- H. Any lawyer applying for and accepting membership on the LRS Panel must agree that in no event will he/she hold or claim to hold the Corpus Christi Bar Association or any officer, trustee, member, or employee, thereof, to any liability whatever in connection with the use of the information herein contained or the operation of LRS.
- I. The Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association shall have the authority to review the legal ability and personal reliability and integrity of each applicant and at any time to deny initial or continued membership for just cause. Further, the Lawyer Referral Committee shall make final determination of eligibility to be on the LRS Panel.
- J. No client or case may be referred from the receiving member of the LRS Panel to any other lawyer not under the professional supervision of said LRS Panel member without the express prior consent of both the client and the Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association.
- K. All lawyers on the LRS Panel must carry professional liability insurance (minimum of \$100,000). A declaration page from the policy must be submitted with the application for membership on the LRS Panel, and the coverage must be carried throughout the attorney's membership on the LRS Panel.
- L. Any lawyer on the LRS Panel may withdraw from his/her participation the LRS Panel upon five (5) days written notice to LRS at the Corpus Christi Bar Association.
- M. Any lawyer on the LRS Panel may be removed from the LRS Panel by the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association for reasons deemed sufficient by it.
- N. A lawyer's privilege of receiving referrals may be suspended for a period not to exceed sixty-two days for consistent unavailability to referred clients and/or consistent refusal to make or keep appointments with referred clients. The Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association will notify the lawyer in writing within five (5) working days of imposing the suspension. The letter providing such notice will include specific reference to the nature of the violation, the date of the suspension, and notice that failure to cure the violation to the satisfaction of the Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association within the time period stated will result in termination of the lawyer's membership on the LRS Panel. The lawyer's status shall not be jeopardized by such action except that referrals will not be made during the suspension. If, within sixty-two days of the date the suspension commences, the lawyer does not cure the violation to the satisfaction of the Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association, the Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association will recommend to the Board of Directors of the Corpus Christi Bar Association that the lawyer be removed from the LRS Panel. When this occurs the Chair of the Lawyer Referral Committee of the Corpus Christi Bar Association will provide written notice of this action to the lawyer restating the nature of the violations and outlining the procedure for appeal to the Board of Directors of the Corpus Christi Bar Association. Such notice will be sent no later than five working days before the date of the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corpus Christi Bar Association.
- O. Any lawyer wishing to receive referrals for mediation must have taken the 40 hours of training required by law for mediators or have otherwise qualified to be a mediator and provide a copy of his/her certificate evidencing his/her qualification to serve as a mediator.
- P. Any lawyer accepting a referral for mediation may not charge a consultation fee in connection with that mediation. If the referred case results in a mediation for which the lawyer receives a mediation fee, the lawyer will forward \$20.00 LRS. That fee may not be charged to the client. I hereby swear or affirm that I have read and understand the LRS rules, and I agree to abide by those rules as a member of the LRS Panel. I certify that I am a member of the State Bar of Texas in good standing. I certify that I am a member of the Corpus Christi Bar Association, that my dues are current, and that I will keep my dues current as long as I am member of the LRS Panel. Pursuant to Rule 10.1 of the Texas Disciplinary rules, I certify that I am competent to practice in the area(s) of practice indicated above; and I will accept Corpus Christi Bar Association Lawyer Referral Application Page 4 of 5 referrals from LRS for cases in that (those) area(s) of practice. I agree not to hold or claim to hold the Corpus Christi Bar Association or any officer, trustee, member, or employee thereof to any liability whatsoever in connection with the use of information contained herein or the operation of LRS. Signature Date (The fee paid for membership on the LRS Panel is not deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal Income Tax purposes. It may be deductible as a business expense; please consult your tax professional.)

ATTORNEY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

NAME	STATE BAR NUMBER
FIRM NAME	
ATTORNEY SIGNATURE	DATE