Regional Judicial Outreach Liaison

Position Description

Purpose
This Regional Judicial Outreach Liaison (JOL) position provides a foundation for the American Bar Association (ABA) to focus outreach efforts on educating and mobilizing support for NHTSA’s alcohol and drug-impaired driving program and traffic safety activities. The JOL will improve judicial community outreach and promote confidence and trust in the Region 6 judiciary (Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and the Indian Nations). The JOL will work collaboratively with the Judicial Fellow assigned to the Indian Nations.

Duties of a Judicial Outreach Liaison
The duties of the JOL include serving as an educator, writer, community outreach advocate, consultant, and liaison, regarding alcohol and drug-impaired driving and other traffic issues for the ABA. The JOL will work with the ABA Judicial Fellows, NHTSA staff and the ABA Judicial Division staff throughout the year to accomplish established goals.

Specific duties will include:

Planning and Preparation
- Develop a thorough understanding of 1) national and state judicial education programs available on the topics of alcohol and drug-impaired driving and other traffic safety issues, 2) national judicial serving organizations 3) Work with the ABA Judicial Division in cooperation with the NHTSA Regional Office in Fort Worth, Texas to review and determine areas of concern that need to be addressed in each state within the region, and the Indian Nations.
- Contact State Highway Safety Office Personnel, State Judicial Educator, State Drug Court Coordinator, and others (including the State Judicial Outreach Liaison) within each state in NHTSA Region 6. Establish a working relationship with each SHSO office, in coordination with the assigned NHTSA regional program manager.
- Develop a familiarity with key resources, such as data systems, research, and partner organizations.
- Develop a proposed work plan based on target activities defined above.

Inform ABA/NHTSA/State Highway Safety Officials
- Identify issues of concern to judges and other court officials regarding alcohol and drug-impaired driving or other traffic issues and bring them to the attention of ABA/NHTSA and other appropriate highway safety officials.
- Upon request, review materials developed by others and provide comments and judicial insights.
- Advise ABA and appropriate highway safety officials on program and strategic planning regarding outreach to judges and the courts, and other issues involving the criminal justice system.
Provide training, education and technical assistance
- Provide training, education, and technical assistance to judges and other court officials regarding impaired driving, with a focus on alcohol-impaired driving.
- Develop a network of contacts with judges and judicial educators to promote training and judicial education to promote innovative programs, supervision of DUI offenders, evidentiary issues, legal updates and alcohol/drug testing and monitoring technology.
- Participate in Statewide Impaired Driving Task Force meetings.
- Attend relevant and appropriate meetings, conferences, workshops, media events and other gatherings dealing with high priority traffic safety issues.
- Provide technical assistance to judges and courts, upon request, regarding alcohol and drug-impaired driving or other traffic safety issues.
- Identify barriers that hamper effective training, education or outreach to the courts and recommend alternative means to address these issues and concerns.

Share information and coordinate with other criminal justice professionals
- Consult regularly with the ABA Judicial Fellows and Judicial Outreach Liaisons regarding outreach efforts and opportunities.
- Share information and coordinate with Law Enforcement Liaisons (LELs), State Highway Safety Offices, NHTSA Regional Offices, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors (TSRPs) and Prosecutor and Probation Fellows, as appropriate, to help identify opportunities for improving the criminal justice system.
- Participate, as possible in the State Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC), promote electronic DUI tracking and electronic warrant systems, and assist in linking court data with other available data systems.

Promote evidence-based and promising practices
- Promote DUI Courts, including multi-track DUI courts.
- Promote school based programs.
- Promote use of ignition interlocks and improvements to ignition interlock programs.
- Promote other evidence-based and promising court, sentencing and supervision practices.

Other responsibilities
- Write and solicit articles for the *Highway to Justice* newsletter.
- Attend JOL Annual and Mid-Year Meetings and other traffic safety related events, in accordance with work plan.
- Submit a monthly report at the end of each month.
- Submit a final report detailing the year’s efforts and accomplishments, specifically noting processes used, strategies employed, results achieved, problems encountered and recommendations.

Additional Considerations
Expenses for all authorized travel, lodging, food and incidentals will be reimbursed in accordance with federal rates as recognized by the General Services Administration. Requests
for reimbursement will be processed through the American Bar Association’s Judicial Division. Travel costs are not included in the monthly stipend and will be reimbursed separately.

This is a paid, part-time position with a monthly stipend of $2,000. It is paid in equal monthly installments. The contract is subject to annual renewal.

Applicants must have a law degree and should be a sitting or retired judge with experience handling impaired driving cases. Experience and understanding of DUI Courts and drug-impaired driving is desired.