



**Bid Synopsis
For
Court Appointed Attorney Services for 44th Circuit Court, Juvenile Division**

Lead Public Agency: Livingston County 44 th Circuit Court Juvenile Division	RFP Issued & Publicly Posted: 01/04/2021
Solicitation: RFP-LC-20-29	Public Postings: Livingston Co. Website (livgov.com) BidNet (bidnetdirect.com/mitn)
RFP Due Date: 01/22/2021	Proposals Received: 13

A Request for Qualifications process was undertaken for the 44th Circuit Court, Juvenile Division in order to create a master list of attorneys who can provide legal counsel to minor children and parents in child protective proceedings, as well as respondent children in juvenile delinquency proceedings.

Through this process, interested attorneys, groups of attorneys, or firms were required to submit responses to a typical Request for Qualifications bid document, as well as agree to a standard pay scale that will be consistent for all qualified attorneys providing service to the County. In addition, this will be an “evergreen” program which may be periodically opened up in order to supplement the list of prequalified attorneys, as needed.

Cases will be assigned by rotation subject to the Contractor’s (attorney’s) availability. Qualified attorneys will be added to the master list upon application and qualification, sorted by their agreement to represent parties in Delinquency Cases, Neglect/Abuse Cases or both Delinquency and Neglect/Abuse Cases

Evaluation of the submissions was completed by Court staff as well as CoPro+, the County’s procurement partner. A summary document was compiled for the Court listing attorney names, prior juvenile court work in Livingston County and elsewhere, whether they are interested in mentoring an attorney new to Juvenile Court, or receiving mentoring, and office location.

The following is a summary of the responses received:

This Request for Qualifications was publicly posted. Thirteen responses were received as follows:

1. Samuel Bennett, Bennett Law Firm
2. Adrienne Brown
3. Stacy Combs
4. Kevin Cummings
5. Steven Dodge
6. Paige Favio
7. Ashley Jacobson
8. Kristina Knight
9. William Livingston
10. Cheryl Lopez, Lopez and Associates
11. Kevin Nagle
12. Denoyer & Ostrowski PC
13. Ameel Trabilisy II



Based on the responses received, as well as the Court's knowledge of many of the respondents, approval of 10 applicants could be recommended without further research.

Because of limited experience reflected in their responses, the following applicants were contacted for clarification and additional information:

Adrienne Brown – has been observing court proceedings for the past month.

Ashley Jacobson – has a mentor who does juvenile work, but not in the Livingston County court. Ashley will be required to observe some hearings prior to assigning a case.

Cheryl Lopez – has been practicing law for three years, but hasn't done any juvenile law.

The Court is implementing a mentoring program. The above three applicants, and any future applicants with limited experience, will be assigned a mentor. They will also be required to observe that mentor in court before cases will be assigned to them.

As part of this prequalification process, all applicants were asked if they are interested in receiving mentoring from attorneys experienced in Juvenile Court practice, as well as if they are interested in serving as a mentor. All three applicants above did request to receive mentoring. In addition, five of the applicants who are experienced with Livingston County Juvenile Court have offered to serve as mentors.

It is recommended that approval of this process be granted in order to create a prequalified master list of attorneys, as well as a mechanism to add to the list in the future.