

# Mercer County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

1245 Whitehorse Mercerville Road, Suite 420, Mercerville, NJ 08619-3894

## Application for Panel Membership

(Print or type) • MUST APPLY EVERY YEAR

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LRS ID# \_\_\_\_\_

FIRM \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Admitted to Practice in any State \_\_\_\_\_

Office Handicapped Accessible?  Yes  No

Other States Licensed to Practice: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Language Capability?  Yes  No

Do you prosecute for a municipality?  Yes  No See below:

Foreign Languages Spoken? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please list \_\_\_\_\_

Select three (3) categories of law for which you are qualified to accept referrals. If you select bankruptcy, consumer law, criminal law, elder law, family law, immigration law or real estate law as a main category, you may select sub-categories under those main selections at no extra charge. Refer to the LRS Rules and Procedures Guide for specifics regarding qualifications. Also, refer to the MCBA LRS Brochure for category definitions. If more than 3 main categories are chosen, you must pay an additional \$60 fee for each one over 3 selected. *Please make your choices carefully.*

### Categories

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeals<br><input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Individual</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Business</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights/Discrimination<br><input type="checkbox"/> Civil Service<br><input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Lemon Law</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Home Improvement</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Corporate/Business<br><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Juvenile</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Indictable Appeals</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Expungement</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Debtor/Creditor<br><input type="checkbox"/> Education Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> Elder Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Wills/Estate Planning</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Administration/Probate</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Medical Planning</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment & Sports Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entitlements<br><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> Family<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Divorce/Alimony/Custody</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Equitable Distribution</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Domestic Violence</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Post-Divorce Litigation</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Appeals</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adoption/Guardianship</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prenuptial Agreements</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Federal Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> General Litigation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Immigration Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Citizenship</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Deportation Meetings</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Passport Issues</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Political Asylum</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Residency of Aliens</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Visa/Work Authorization</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Relations & Employment Law<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landlord/Tenant<br><input type="checkbox"/> Legal Malpractice<br><input type="checkbox"/> Marital Mediation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medical Malpractice<br><input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Court<br><input type="checkbox"/> Patent, Copyright & Trademark<br><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury/Property Damage<br><input type="checkbox"/> Products Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate<br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Residential</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Commercial</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Foreclosure</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Condo Associations</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Tax Appeals<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Claims/Special Civil Part<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tax<br><input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Torts<br><input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Zoning/Planning |
|--|--|--|

**Indicate the qualifications and experience held in each of the categories you have selected.**

1. Choice \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.
2. Choice \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.
3. Choice \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.

There is a \$60 fee for each additional category over three selected.

- 4. Choice \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.
- 5. Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.
- 6. Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Number of matters handled per year.

**Panel Membership Fees for 3 Main Categories Selected:**

|                              | <u>MCBA Members</u> | <u>Non-MCBA Members</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 to 4 years in practice     | \$100               | \$250                   |
| 5 to 9 years in practice     | \$125               | \$275                   |
| 10 or more years in practice | \$150               | \$300                   |

Dues payments are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes. They may however, be deductible under other provisions as a business expense.

**IMPORTANT! INSURANCE DECLARATIONS PAGE MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION.**

**Liability Insurance**

Each panel member must maintain professional liability insurance and submit the declarations page of the policy as proof. The minimum required is \$500,000 per claim.

Malpractice Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Limits Carried \_\_\_\_\_ Deductible \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal Date \_\_\_\_\_

If your insurance coverage lapses or is discontinued for any reason, you must notify the MCBA Lawyer Referral Service immediately. Failure to comply will mean removal from the panel.

An additional \$25 late fee will be assessed for LRS dues payments made 30 days after the beginning of the LRS calendar year. (March 1 through the end of February)

I acknowledge that the Mercer County Bar Association, herein referred to as the Association, has no responsibility whatsoever for collection of fees from clients, nor does the Association warrant my competence with respect to any matter referred. I certify that I will not accept representation or continue representation in a matter for which I am not qualified or competent. I will remain primarily responsible for the file of any case referred to me by the Lawyer Referral Service. I also certify that I will not share referrals given to me by the Lawyer Referral Service unless I am unable to handle the case. In this event, I agree to return the client to the LRS program for re-referral or share the referral with only an attorney who is a member of my firm and is also an active member of the Lawyer Referral Service. I also agree to comply with the Rules and Procedures of the Lawyer Referral Service set forth by the Association.

On contingency fee cases, I agree to rebate the Mercer County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service a referral fee when a fee received is between \$401 and \$7,500, 10% of the entire fee received by the attorney is due the Service. When a fee received on the same case is \$7,501 or more, \$750 plus 25% of amount of the fee over \$7,501 is due the Service. On fixed or hourly cases when a fee received for a case is between \$401 and \$2,500, 10% of the entire fee received by the attorney is due the Service. When a fee received for the same case is \$2,501 or more, \$250 plus 15% of amount of the fee over \$2,501 is due the Service. I further agree that the client shall not be billed an additional amount to cover the referral fee and that the combined fees and expenses billed to the client shall not exceed the total charges which would have been billed to the client if the Lawyer Referral Service had not been involved. I further agree that the Lawyer Referral Service shall have access to my records of referral matters in the event of a dispute concerning the referral fee.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Mercer County Bar Association (and the Lawyer Referral Service Committee and its agents) from any and all claims, demands, actions, liability or loss, including, but not limited to, costs of defense, including a reasonable attorney's fee, which may arise from or be incurred as a result of any loss and all referrals of a client to me through the Lawyer Referral Service.

I agree to charge no more than \$25 for the first half hour of consultation, which will cover conference and advice, and not the preparation of any documents.

By signing below, I agree that the MCBA Lawyer Referral Service has a lien on any of the proceeds of any legal fee on any matter referred to me to the extent provided above.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_