

Civil Justice Association of California Request for Applications for Amicus Panel

The Civil Justice Association of California (CJAC) requests nominations for and applications by outside appellate counsel to serve on CJAC's newly-established CJAC Amicus Panel.

The CJAC Amicus Panel will consist of volunteer lawyers who will provide recommendations to the CJAC Board appellate committee on cases in which to engage and draft amicus briefs on behalf of CJAC.

Founded in 1979, CJAC is California's premier legal reform advocacy organization with a mission to fight excessive and abusive civil litigation on behalf of businesses in the legislature, regulatory arena, and the courts. We are a non-partisan, nonprofit, member-based organization governed by a board of directors. Our membership consists of businesses and associations from a variety of industries.

CJAC's long-standing amicus program has helped produce important decisions over the years, ensuring the business voice is represented in significant civil liability and procedure cases.

Description of CJAC Amicus Panel

- Consists of 10-15 outside appellate counsel nominated by CJAC board members or CJAC staff.
- Chaired by a CJAC-designated appellate counsel.
- Reviews and provides input on potential cases in which CJAC should engage and collectively drafts 12-14 amicus briefs a year on behalf of CJAC.
- Generally meets by video conference bi-monthly; meetings to be kept to a necessary minimum.
- There is no brief quota, but members expected to actively engage in merits discussions.
- All members must pass a conflicts check and agree to sign CJAC's conflict of interest code.
- All members must be admitted to the California Bar.
- For more information about CJAC's amicus program and FAQs, visit cjac.org/appellate-center

Member Benefits

- Be a part of the important cause of advancing a fair and balanced civil justice system on behalf of California businesses.
- Be on the inside track for obtaining CJAC support on matters important to counsel's firm/clients.
- Collaborate with skilled appellate lawyers and learn from and mentor others.
- Appear on amicus briefs in the California and U.S. Supreme Courts and intermediate state and federal appellate courts with the potential to provide oral argument alongside party counsel.
- Receive discounted [CJAC Legal Advisory Board](#) membership.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in matters that advance CJAC's above-stated mission.
- Member of a firm that provides pro-bono credit for work on CJAC amicus briefs.
- Member of a firm that prioritizes diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Appellate practice experience of 5+ years.

Brief Drafting Compensation and Process:

- Generally, amicus panel members will write letter briefs (such as in support of review, publication, or depublication) on a pro bono basis and will write merits briefs pro bono or for a modest flat fee, to be determined at the outset of the brief.
- Briefs will be subject to review and editing for consistency of CJAC voice and brand.
- Amicus submissions will be under CJAC's name with primary drafter listed as counsel.

Nomination and Application Process

- CJAC Board members may nominate appellate counsel by connecting them with CJAC staff or having them designate the nominating board member's name on application form.
- To apply, interested counsel should complete the application form located at cjac.org/cjac-amicus-panel. Direct questions to legal@cjac.org or call 916-443-4900.