



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
*for the*  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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**ROBERT M. FARRELL**  
Clerk of Court

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
Office of the Clerk  
1 Courthouse Way  
Boston, MA 02210

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**July 28, 2022**

### **Daniel J. Cloherty Selected as Chair of the Criminal Justice Act Board**

On June 24, 2022, the U.S. District Court selected Daniel J. Cloherty, Esq. to serve a two-year term as Chair of the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Board.

Mr. Cloherty is a graduate of Harvard University and received his J.D. from University of California-Berkeley School of Law. Following work as a law clerk in the United States District Court for the Central District of California and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Mr. Cloherty began his legal career at a criminal defense firm in Washington, D.C. before relocating to Boston. From 2002 to 2003, Mr. Cloherty served as a Special Assistant Federal Defender in the District of Massachusetts. He has been a member of the CJA Panel in this District since 2007, and a member of the CJA Board since 2017. Mr. Cloherty is currently a partner at Todd & Weld LLP.

The Court wishes to express its enormous gratitude to outgoing Board Chair Jessica Hedges, Esq., whose term expired this year in accordance with the term limitation provisions set forth in the District's CJA Plan. During her six-plus years of service as CJA Board Chair, Ms. Hedges oversaw recruitment efforts for the CJA Panels in Boston, Worcester and Springfield, initiated

substantial revisions to the District's CJA Plan, worked with the Federal Defender to provide regular trainings to the panel, undertook a major overhaul of the District's CJA Mentorship Program, and helped to navigate the significant challenges faced by CJA Panel members and their clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Hedges has been a staunch and consistent advocate for an independent defense bar in this District, and she provided valuable feedback to the Court on the composition and administration of the CJA Board and the CJA Panel in this District. Ms. Hedges will continue to serve on the District's CJA Board in her capacity as the CJA Panel Attorney District Representative ("PADR") for Massachusetts.

The Criminal Justice Act Board assists the court in the selection and administration of the Criminal Justice Act Panel, a slate of attorneys who are authorized to accept court appointments on behalf of indigent defendants. The board advises the Court on matters pertaining to the practices and policies of the Court. The board also serves a liaison function, in cooperation with the Federal Public Defenders Office, raising with the court matters of concern to the criminal defense bar.

(Contact: Robert M. Farrell, Clerk, U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, 617-748-9165)

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