

# Chapter 5

## Experts and Other Assistance

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This chapter focuses on motions for funds for the assistance of an expert (including the assistance of an investigator). Such motions are most appropriate in felony cases but should be considered in any case where expert assistance is necessary for an effective defense. Other forms of state-funded assistance (such as interpreters) are discussed briefly at the end of this chapter.

Experts can assist the defense in various ways, including among other things:

- reviewing the discovery relevant to their expertise, including any materials prepared by the State's experts,
- identifying gaps in the discovery that has been produced and additional discovery that should be requested,
- evaluating the client's mental state for purposes of suppression motions, trial defenses, and sentencing,
- preparing for any hearing to exclude testimony by the State's expert witnesses,
- helping defense counsel prepare for cross-examination of the State's experts, and
- testifying before the jury.