

ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER I: APPELLATE DIVISION

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender seeks a zealous and dedicated appellate litigator to serve as an attorney in the Appellate Division. As the appellate division of Maryland's largest legal services provider, the Appellate Division is in a position to influence the development of criminal and constitutional law in Maryland and to lead in advancing systemic criminal justice and constitutional reforms.

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender provides superior representation to indigent defendants throughout the State of Maryland. The Agency's vision is for *Justice, Fairness, and Dignity for All*. Employees are committed to the core values of a culture of excellence, client-centered representation, tenacious advocacy, and are united as a team in achieving the Agency's mission.

OVERVIEW OF THE POSITION

An attorney in the Appellate Division provides representation for indigent clients during the appellate process before both the Maryland Court of Appeals and the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. An Assistant Public Defender combines his/her demonstrated dedication to the representation of indigent clients with his/her strong research, writing, and litigation skills to provide exceptional representation. The projected start date for this position is late August, 2017. The position will be located at 6 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Thorough and zealous representation of clients throughout the appellate process.
- Ability to competently issue spot as well as effectively and independently brief and litigate identified issues.
- Actively and capably communicate with clients.
- Continuously seek professional development through trainings, continuing legal education, and advocacy courses.

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Demonstrated commitment to zealous and comprehensive public defense.
- No prior litigation experience required, but prior judicial clerkship strongly preferred.
- Strong issue spotting, research, and writing skills.
- Ability to work independently, and effectively manage an active caseload.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment.
- Superior communication and advocacy skills.
- Active membership in good standing in the Maryland Bar or the Bar of another State.*

HOW TO APPLY

If you wish to be considered for this position please submit a: (1) current resume, (2) cover letter addressing the above qualifications, (3) list of references, (4) completed Applicant Essay (available on our website under "Careers"), (5) recent writing sample, and (6) law school transcript (unofficial or official). Cover letters should be addressed to: Johanna Cohen Leshner, Director of Recruitment, 6 St. Paul Street, 14th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

Please email items (1)-(6) in **one email** to attorneyjobs@opd.state.md.us. In the subject line of the email please indicate "APDI: Appellate Division." Incomplete applications will not be considered.

CLOSING DATE: JUNE 8, 2017

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Assistant Public Defenders are full-time employees who serve at the pleasure of the Public Defender. Criminal Procedure Art., Section 16-203(d). Assistant Public Defenders cannot engage in the private practice of law while in this position.

* Individuals who are or who will become members of the Bar of another State must be admitted to the Maryland Bar within 18 months of their start date with OPD. OPD will also consider applicants for this position who sat for the February Bar Examination, were successful, and are currently awaiting admission. Should those applicants not successfully become members of the Bar at the time hiring decisions are made, they will no longer be considered qualified for this position.