

CHIEF ATTORNEY, MISDEMEANOR DIVISION: BALTIMORE CITY

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender (OPD) seeks a demonstrated leader and zealous litigator to serve as the Chief Attorney of the Misdemeanor Division for Baltimore City. OPD's Baltimore City District Office is a busy, urban public defender office. OPD 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

The Chief Attorney in the Misdemeanor Division combines his/her demonstrated dedication to the representation of indigent clients with his/her strong leadership and litigation skills to ensure the highest standard of client representation in a team-oriented environment focused on a client-centered approach to representation. The Chief Attorney will be responsible for developing and implementing an innovative system of misdemeanor litigation throughout District One. This involves developing a cross-functional collaborative team model that will focus on developing new initiatives and energizing existing efforts. This will require in depth collaboration and partnership with Misdemeanor Litigation Supervisors, District One leaders, attorneys and support staff. The Chief Attorney in the Misdemeanor Division is involved in all aspects of the day-to-day operations of the Division, including the supervision of attorneys and support staff. This position is located Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Reports directly to the District Public Defender and the Deputy District Public Defender for Baltimore City.
- Works closely with Misdemeanor Supervisors and District One leaders to ensure accountability while fostering mentorship, teamwork, and communication.
- Actively consults with attorneys on case preparation and trial strategy.
- Monitors the distribution of cases and attorney caseloads to ensure optimal client outcomes.
- Identifies, assess, and cultivates talent amongst attorneys in the Misdemeanor Division.
- Organizes and conducts regular in-house training programs.
- Works closely with the Training Division and other Statewide Divisions to ensure effective representation through the development of relevant policies, practices, and trainings.
- Maintains an active caseload, when time and responsibilities permit.

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Demonstrated commitment to zealous and comprehensive public defense.
- Substantial criminal litigation experience and strong trial skills (three years felony jury trial experience preferred).
- Demonstrated mentorship, communication, client advocacy, and leadership abilities.
- Prior experience with planning and program development strongly encouraged.
- Prior experience leading a multi-faceted team in developing new or restructured programs strongly encouraged.
- Active membership in good standing in the Maryland Bar or Bar of another State.*

HOW TO APPLY

To apply 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"). Please email items (1)-(4) in **one email** to attorneyjobs@opd.state.md.us. In the subject line of the email please indicate "Misdemeanor Chief, Baltimore City." Incomplete applications will not be considered.

CLOSING DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2017

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

* If candidate is a member of the Bar of another State, the candidate must commit to becoming admitted to the Maryland Bar within 18 months of their start date.