

**ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER  
DISTRICT II: DORCHESTER, SOMERSET, WICOMICO AND WORCESTER COUNTIES**

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender (OPD) seeks a dynamic, dedicated, and client-centered litigator to serve as an Assistant Public Defender in Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties located in the Eastern Shore of Maryland. 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**

An Assistant Public Defender combines his/her demonstrated dedication to the representation of indigent clients with his/her strong and zealous litigation skills to provide exceptional representation on behalf of all his/her clients. The attorney in this position is expected to work independently in managing an active caseload while simultaneously working in a team-oriented environment focused on a client-centered approach to representation. Although District Two attorneys are primarily assigned to one of the four counties, all attorneys in the district must remain flexible to placement in any of the counties within District Two. OPD will consider candidates at all experience levels.

**PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Zealous representation of indigent defendants at every stage of the criminal process.
- Ability to competently and resourcefully prepare for and manage an active caseload.
- Actively communicate with clients, team members, and resources for optimal client outcomes.
- Continuously seek professional development through trainings, continuing legal education and trial skills courses.

**TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS**

- Demonstrated commitment to zealous and comprehensive public defense.
- Criminal trial experience or exposure preferred.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment.
- Ability to work independently, and effectively manage an active caseload.
- Active membership in good standing in the Maryland Bar or bar of another state by start date.\* Accordingly, most current 3L's are not eligible for this position.

**HOW TO APPLY**

If you wish to be considered for this position please submit a: (1) current resume, (2) cover letter, (3) law school transcript (required only if applicant is five or less years out of law school); (4) list of references, and (5) completed Applicant Essay (available on our website under "Careers").

Cover letters should be addressed to:  
Johanna Cohen Leshner, Director of Recruitment  
6 St. Paul Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

All requested materials must be submitted electronically. Please email all materials in **one email** to attorneyjobs@opd.state.md.us. In the subject line of the email please indicate "APD, Eastern Shore." Incomplete applications will not be considered.

**CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED**

**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.**

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\* Individuals who are members of the Bar of another State must be admitted to the Maryland Bar within 18 months of start date.