

ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER I: DISTRICT XI (FREDERICK AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES)

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender (OPD) seeks a dynamic, dedicated, and client-centered litigator to serve as an Assistant Public Defender handling misdemeanor matters in District and Circuit Court in District XI serving Maryland's Frederick and Washington Counties. OPD provides superior representation to indigent clients 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 their demonstrated dedication to the representation of indigent clients with their strong and zealous litigation skills to provide exceptional representation on behalf of all their clients. The attorney in this position is expected to work independently in managing an active misdemeanor caseload while simultaneously working in a team-oriented environment focused on a client-centered approach to representation. The attorney in this position will be handling misdemeanor cases in District Court as well as following those matters to Circuit Court in the event of an appeal or jury demand. This position will primarily be located in Hagerstown, Maryland.

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Zealous representation of clients in misdemeanor matters at every stage of the criminal process including but not limited to: bail review proceedings, bench trials in District Court, appeals of misdemeanor matters to Circuit Court, and jury demands to Circuit Court.
- 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.*

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, and (4) completed Applicant Essay (available on our website under "Careers"). Materials should be submitted in **one email** to attorneyjobs@opd.state.md.us. In the subject line of the email please indicate "APDI: District XI." Incomplete applications will not be considered.

CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to building a culturally diverse staff and strongly encourage people historically underrepresented in the practice of law to apply. 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.

* Attorneys barred in another state must become members of the Maryland Bar within 18 months of start date.