

ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER: APPELLATE DIVISION

The Maryland Office of the Public Defender (OPD) seeks a zealous and dedicated advocate to serve as an attorney in its Appellate Division. The OPD strives to provide superior representation to indigent criminal defendants, juvenile respondents in delinquency cases, and parents in child access cases, and to promote its vision of Justice, Fairness, and Dignity for All. Our core values are a culture of excellence, client-centered representation, tenacious advocacy, and team unity, and we were the first statewide public defense agency to offer a Gideon's Promise certified training program. Through representing our clients in Maryland's Courts of Appeal, the Appellate Division is in a unique position to influence the development of criminal and constitutional law in Maryland and to advocate for systemic reforms.

OVERVIEW OF THE POSITION

An Assistant Public Defender 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. Assistant Public Defenders combine their demonstrated dedication to the representation of indigent clients with their strong research, writing, and litigation skills to provide exceptional representation. The projected start date for this position is late August, 2018. The position will be located at 6 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland, and requires frequent travel to the appellate courts in Annapolis and to correctional facilities

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide superior representation to clients throughout the appellate process, including identifying appellate issues, conducting thorough legal research, writing persuasive briefs and certiorari petitions, and presenting oral arguments.
- Actively and effectively communicate with clients, their families, trial attorneys, court staff and opposing counsel.
- Work collaboratively with other members of the OPD to advance the interests of our clients.
- Continuously seek professional development through trainings, continuing legal education, and advocacy courses.

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Demonstrated commitment to our clients and to zealous and comprehensive public defense.
- Strong issue spotting, research, and writing skills. APD will consider candidates for this position at all experience levels.
- 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). Please email items (1)-(6) in **one email** to attorneyjobs@opd.state.md.us. In the subject line of the email please indicate "APD: Appellate Division." Incomplete applications will not be considered.

CLOSING DATE: JUNE 21, 2018

The OPD 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). They 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 the OPD. The OPD will also consider applicants for this position who sat for the February 2018 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.