

CAREER OPPORTUNITY-WASHINGTON COUNTY ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Office of the Washington County Public Defender is the oldest public defender's office in the State of Mississippi, established by the State Legislature in 1972. The office consists of two attorneys, an office manager, and an investigator.

SUMMARY

The position of the Washington County Assistant Public Defender consists of representing indigent clients accused of committing felony crimes. The attorney will be expected to represent clients in municipal, justice, and circuit courts. Duties require analyzing and interpreting statutory and case law, establishing professional relationships, and exercising independent judgment in the interpretation and enforcement of criminal statutes and fundamental constitutional principles.

This position works in conjunction with and under the direct supervision of the Washington County Public Defender.

EXAMPLE OF BASIC TASKS AND DUTIES

The following examples are intended as illustrations of the various types of work to be performed. No attempt is made to be exhaustive in the examples provided.

Interview people accused of committing criminal offenses.

Regular visits with people in detention facilities and/or prisons.

The ability to return phone calls and emails in a timely manner.

Court appearances on behalf of accused in all courts systems within Washington County, including but not limited to initial appearances, bond hearings, preliminary hearings, motion hearings, and trials.

Negotiate with charging authorities in an attempt to reach a final disposition of the charge.

Act as lead and/or assisting counsel in felony trials in circuit court. Act as assisting counsel in capital felony trials.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

The attorney must be licensed to practice law in all state courts in the State of Mississippi and be in good standing with the Mississippi Bar and Mississippi Supreme Court. In addition, the attorney must have a valid Mississippi driver's license. Preference will be given to attorneys with prior jury trial experience.

SALARY

Negotiable

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

This is an At-Will employment position.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

It is the policy of Washington County to ensure equal employment opportunity without discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. Washington County prohibits any such discrimination or harassment.

This statements contained herein describe the scope of responsibility and essential functions of this position but should not be considered to be an all-inclusive listing of work requirements. Individuals may perform other duties as assigned. Nothing in this job description restricts Washington County's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time unless restricted by law.

Please send your cover letter and resume by email to:

sedwards@co.washington.ms.us

Stephen Edwards

Washington County Public Defender