

Marshall County Contract Public Defender

The Marshall County Public Defender's Office is accepting applications for contract public defenders. Please send applications to the program administrator, MacKenzie Breitenstein, at publicdefender@co.marshall.in.us.

The Marshall County Public Defender program includes five full-time contracts and one part-time contract. The part-time contract carries a 60% caseload. One of the full-time contracts includes serving as the appellate attorney for the County. The County has one Circuit Court and three Superior Courts, and public defenders appear in front of all four courts depending on specific case assignments.

Title: Full-time Public Defender
Contract status: Independent Contractor
Compensation: \$102,900.00 annually

Title: Part-time Public Defender
Contract status: Independent Contractor
Compensation: \$61,740.00 annually

PURPOSE OF POSITION:

Prepares and presents legal defense of indigent persons for whom the relevant Court appoints a public defender. Position is responsible for all phases of trial defense as qualified, which include defending matters to a jury or to the Judge. The position may also include representation of indigent persons on appeal. Appellate representation will be discussed with applicants prior to awarding the contract (varies by contract).

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Reviews charging information, probable cause affidavits, CHINS/TPR petitions, juvenile delinquency petitions, and other relevant petitions and discovery tendered by the State of Indiana.
- Meets with clients that have been appointed a public defender to ascertain facts, potential evidence, and exploration of potential legal defenses. Said meetings may occur in penal facilities, such as the Marshall County Jail.
- Interviews potential witnesses in a client's matter. Said interviews may be in the form of depositions or non-stenographic recorded interviews, when appropriate.
- Interacts and negotiates with the State of Indiana, when appropriate.
- Appears and represents the client at all necessary Court hearings, up to and including trial by jury, when appropriate.
- Prepares appropriate legal motions, briefs, petitions, and other relevant pleadings.
- May include preparation of notice of appeal, appellate briefs, and appearance at oral argument, together with all other aspects of appellate representation, if such representation is included in the contract (varies by contract)

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's Degree

- Doctor of Jurisprudence
- Must have an unlimited license to practice law in the State of Indiana
- Must meet the qualifications for all levels of trial defense, juvenile delinquency defense, and CHINS/TPR defense as required by the Commission on Court Appointed Attorneys, and may also need to be appeal qualified (varies by contract)
- Ability to effectively and tactfully deal with other people, which encompasses other staff of the Marshall County Public Defender's Office, Judges, judicial staff, representatives from the State of Indiana, staff at penal facilities, and the public at large
- Ability to communicate well, both verbally and in writing
- Knowledge of constitutional law, criminal law, Indiana traffic law, juvenile delinquency law, and CHINS/TPR law
- Ability to represent clients at all phases of a case, including at a trial by jury
- Ability to make effective use of legal references and other research tools
- Knowledge of Court procedures, provisions, rules, and precedent
- Ability to separate relevant data and facts from irrelevant data and facts when assessing proposed evidence
- Ability to represent the Marshall County Public Defender's Office maintaining appropriate Standards
- Ability to consistently be present within Marshall County, Indiana, and appear regularly, in person, in front of the various courts of Marshall County, Indiana