

**COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES  
PUBLIC DEFENDER DIVISION**

**44 Bromfield Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 482-6212**

**Position Posting**

Staff Attorney  
Worcester Superior Court Office

The Public Defender Division of the Committee for Public Counsel Services, the Massachusetts public defender agency, is seeking a full-time attorney for its Superior Court office located in Worcester. The office provides legal representation and advocacy to its indigent clients who are charged with Superior Court jurisdiction felony offenses, including sexual offenses, and cannot afford to hire their own counsel. Staff attorneys also represent clients in sex offender registry proceedings and in sexually dangerous person commitment proceedings.

***Responsibilities***

The duties of Public Defender Division staff attorneys include:

- client interviews
- arraignment and bail advocacy
- legal research and writing
- pretrial investigation including visiting crime scenes, locating and interviewing witnesses, collecting and reviewing documentary evidence
- preparing and arguing pretrial motions, affidavits and legal memoranda
- dispositional investigations and advocacy
- jury and bench trials of criminal cases
- representation of clients in interlocutory proceedings
- providing formal and informal assistance to private attorneys on cases assigned through the Private Counsel Division of CPCS
- representation of clients before the Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB) and on appeal to Superior Court from SORB classification decisions
- representation of clients in sexually dangerous person commitment proceedings
- providing training to Public Defender Division and Private Counsel Division staff attorneys

***Requirements***

Candidates must have at least one year prior experience as an attorney representing clients in the defense of criminal cases. Candidates must also be eligible to practice law in this jurisdiction as a member of the Massachusetts bar in good standing, or as an attorney in another jurisdiction who is eligible to engage in limited Massachusetts practice under Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:04. Candidates must be able to work in a defense and community-oriented capacity, both

independently and collaboratively, and be committed to working with a culturally diverse, low-income population. Applications will be strengthened by a demonstrated commitment to working with community-based organizations and knowledge of state and local resources useful to clients. Candidates must have access to an automobile in order to travel to courts, clients, and investigation locations which are not easily accessible by public transportation.

***Description of Office***

The Worcester Superior Court office represents indigent defendants in felony criminal cases within the final jurisdiction of the Superior Court. The office accepts assignments from, and provides staff attorney coverage of, each of the 11 district courts in Worcester County. It has nine attorneys, a full-time investigator, administrative and secretarial support staff, and access to a social services advocate.

***Salary***

The salary is commensurate with experience.

***Application Procedure***

Applicants should e-mail a letter of interest, a resume, and a writing sample to Michael Hussey, Attorney-in-Charge ([mhussey@publiccounsel.net](mailto:mhussey@publiccounsel.net)), Debra Dellasanta, Administrative Assistant ([ddellasanta@publiccounsel.net](mailto:ddellasanta@publiccounsel.net)), and Krista Lohr, Legal Hiring Coordinator ([klohr@publiccounsel.net](mailto:klohr@publiccounsel.net)). The letter of interest should set forth a description of work done as an attorney, including an account of trials and significant hearings, and also experience with a community-oriented defender practice. The writing sample should be work done in the course of representing a client in defense of a criminal case.

***Application Deadline***

The deadline for submitting an application is **Friday, January 20, 2012**, but applications may be accepted until the position is filled.

**The Committee for Public Counsel Services is an equal opportunity employer.**

The agency actively seeks to diversify its workforce.

Date of Posting: January 4, 2012