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Hiring Practices of California Public Defender Offices

(Includes State and Federal Defender Offices)

INTRODUCTION

STAFFING CHANGES
Staffing changes may occur after the publication of this directory. To insure that you have current information, you should always verify the name of the hiring attorney and recruiting coordinator, the spelling of their names, and the address, before corresponding with these offices. Before interviewing you should verify the name of the Public Defender in the county, and research her/him and the office to which you are applying.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC DEFENDER ASSOCIATION

OTHER TYPES OF DEFENDER OFFICES
Visit http://www.cpda.org/publicarea/county/county.html, and you will find a list that also includes alternate defenders, conflict defenders, California Appellate Project offices and Indigent Criminal Defense Panel Administrators. These offices, not listed here for the most part, may also be a source of volunteer or paid positions.

ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWING
Some counties conduct on-campus interviews at several law schools. Check with Career Services for more details.

Be aware that hiring practices can change at any time due to budget constraints.

Good luck!
POST-BAR LEGAL ASSISTANT

Post-Bar Legal Assistants perform legal research and writing, conduct client intake interviews, litigate motions, conduct evidentiary hearings and assist attorneys in case preparation for trial or disposition. All legal assistants are compensated and must be certified under the Rules Governing the Practical Training of Law Students by the State Bar of California or admitted to the State Bar. Applications for post-bar legal assistants are accepted during On Campus Interviews and from July to December. All inquiries should be directed to: Alameda County Public Defender Recruitment Officer: acpdrecruitment@acgov.org. Please include a cover letter, resume and writing sample.

ENTRY LEVEL ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Appointments to all vacant Associate Deputy Public Defender positions are made by the Public Defender from a civil service hiring list prepared after an examination coordinated by the Alameda County Personnel Department. The Personnel Department receives applications during an open period of 26 days. Applications for Associate Deputy Public Defender are generally accepted once a year, from mid-November to mid-December following the summer bar exam results. Complete job description Notify me when the examination will occur

All Associate Deputy Public Defenders initially work in a branch office where they are assigned cases of increasing difficulty. By the end of the third year most lawyers are assigned their first felony jury trial case load. After demonstrating proficiency in the trial of felony cases, Associate Deputy Public Defenders are promoted to the position of Deputy Public Defender. The Office provides ongoing in-house training for all attorneys; the Alameda County Public Defender is approved as a provider of Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) by the State Bar of California.

California Bar membership required. They do hire recent graduates. Apply through the county’s Human Resources Services: http://www.acgov.org/hrs/index.htm. County application and civil service exam required. The examination for Associate Deputy Public Defender is generally conducted once a year, often in the period following the results of the summer Bar Examination.

SUMMER LAW CLERK POSITION POSITIONS

The Alameda County Public Defender’s Office offers law students the opportunity to gain the traditional experience in research and writing, as well as practical “hands on” experience of assisting Public Defenders in court. In general, law clerks perform legal research and writing, conduct client intake interviews, litigate motions, conduct evidentiary hearings and assist attorneys in case preparation for trial or disposition. All law clerk work is done under the supervision of a senior Public Defender attorney. Law students who are exploring a career in criminal defense work will find their experiences with the Alameda County Public Defender an invaluable step in their career development.
All law students seeking a position must have completed courses in Criminal Procedure and Evidence and must be eligible for certification under the Rules Governing the Practical Training of Law Students by the State Bar of California. Applications are accepted continuously, however the bulk are received during On Campus Interviews in the fall. All inquiries should be directed to: Alameda County Public Defender Recruitment Officer: acpdrecruitment@acgov.org. Please include a cover letter, resume and writing sample.

**ALPINE COUNTY**

Eric Acevedo, Contract Public Defender
99 Water St.
Markleeville, CA 96150
Ph: (530) 694-2287
Fax: (530) 544-7201
www.alpinecountyca.gov

This county contracts out its public defender work. Note that Markleeville is the county seat. Interested students and graduates should contact the county to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

**AMADOR COUNTY**

CHIEF DEFENSE ATTORNEY: Randall Shrout
Richard A. Ciummo & Associates
201 Clinton Rd., Ste. 202
Jackson, CA 95642
Ph: (209) 223-0877
Fax: (209) 223-0831
http://www.ciummolaw.com/
admin@ciummolaw.com

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the above office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

**BUTTE COUNTY**

Philip Heithecker, Public Defender Services Executive Director
1560 Humboldt Road, Suite 1
Chico, CA 95928
Ph: (530) 345-1647
Fax: (530)894-2103
www.buttecounty.net

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact
Philip Heithhecker to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

CALAVERAS COUNTY

CHIEF DEFENSE ATTORNEY: Scott Gross
Richard A. Ciummo & Associates
692 B Marshall Street
P.O. Box 725
San Andreas, CA 95249
Ph: (209) 754-4321
Fax: (209) 754-4143
http://www.ciummolaw.com/
admin@ciummolaw.com

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the above office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

COLUSA COUNTY

Albert Smith
229 Fifth Street
Colusa, CA 95932-1346
Ph: (530) 458-8801
albertsmithlaw@yahoo.com
http://www.colusa.courts.ca.gov/

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact Albert Smith to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Robin Lipetzky
Central/East Branch
800 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553
Ph: (925) 335-8000
Fax: (925) 335-8010
www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/pubdef/default.html

West County Branch
3811 Bissell Ave.
Richmond, CA 94805
Ph: (510) 412-4900
Fax: (510) 412-4901

Alternate Defender Office
627 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553
Ph: (925) 335-8181
Fax: (925) 646-1747
GRADUATE LAW CLERK PROGRAM

The Department staff includes post-graduate law clerks who may be assigned to any of our three offices in Martinez and Richmond. Graduate law clerks assist attorneys with legal research and motion preparation, client interviews, assisting attorneys in trial, and other assorted tasks of value to the Department in fulfilling its mission to effectively represent our clients. If certified by the State Bar of California, graduate law clerks may be permitted to litigate motions in court under the supervision of the assigned attorney.

Graduate law clerks earn $25.00 per hour. The positions are filled for one year terms that begin in mid to late August.

Students interested in a Graduate Law Clerk position should send a resume and cover letter to Robin Lipetzky, Public Defender, robin.lipetzky@pd.cccounty.us

The deadline for applications is the third Monday in October. Applicants who qualify for an interview will be contacted to schedule an interview in November. Hiring decisions are completed by January.

SUMMER LAW CLERK PROGRAM

Each summer the Department accepts approximately 20 volunteer and work-study law clerks who have completed either one or two years of law school. Students who attend a law school with which the Department has work study contracts may receive work study funding. Other students work as volunteers or receive grants from their law schools to work in our office.

Summer law clerks work with attorneys on their cases by researching and writing pretrial motions and performing a wide range of other research and case preparation duties. Interested students may be assigned to work closely with attorneys engaged in jury trials. Law students certified by the State Bar may have the opportunity to argue motions in court under the supervision of an attorney.

We strive to make the summer program as meaningful as possible for our summer clerks. In addition to providing diverse and challenging assignments, we encourage law clerks to accompany attorneys to the jail to visit clients, to view court proceedings, and to attend tours we organize of criminal justice facilities such as San Quentin State Prison and Contra Costa County’s “Ranch” for juvenile offenders.

We accept applications for summer law clerk positions beginning in October and complete hiring in March. Send cover letter, resume and writing sample to Jonathan Laba, Deputy Public Defender, at jonathan.laba@pd.cccounty.us.

LAW STUDENT EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Department maintains close working relationships with a number of Bay Area law schools which offer student externship programs for course credit. Our philosophy regarding our extern program mirrors our philosophy regarding our summer law clerk program: We work to make the experience as rich, diverse, and meaningful as possible. Externs have an opportunity to be exposed to, and participate in, the daily work of our staff attorneys, with responsibilities similar to those of our summer law clerks. We strive to serve as mentors and role models for students who may later enter the practice of criminal law or other careers related to social justice.

Students interested in an externship or a summer law clerk position should send a resume, cover letter and writing sample (if available) to Jonathan Laba, Deputy Public Defender, at jonathan.laba@pd.cccounty.us.
ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Attorneys quickly gain a substantial amount of trial experience beginning with misdemeanor cases and progressing to felonies of increasing complexity. It is not unusual for experienced attorneys to have done over 40 felony jury trials. Many senior attorneys in the Department have tried in excess of 75 felony jury trials. Several attorneys have been lead counsel in capital cases. Some attorneys are State Bar Certified Criminal Law Specialists.

Attorneys discuss their cases with more experienced attorneys during staffing meetings and, when appropriate, have mentor attorneys. Newer attorneys quickly gain a substantial amount of trial experience at both the misdemeanor and felony level. Contra Costa County consistently ranks at the top of the state's counties in terms of the number of cases tried to a jury verdict. Attorneys interested in learning the skills of trial advocacy can become able trial lawyers in a relatively short period of time. New misdemeanor attorneys average 1-2 jury trials each month along with a substantial motion practice.

Representation of clients is vertical: attorneys in the office handle their own cases from the beginning to the end of representation. Our policy is to rotate attorneys among both office locations and geographical areas of the County so that experience can be gained practicing in all courts and in all our practice groups.

Attorneys are selected from a large pool of interested candidates. The Office of Public Defender recruits attorney candidates from diverse backgrounds with a record of high academic achievement from law schools nationwide. In addition to educational prerequisites, the most highly qualified candidates may have related job experience and other characteristics that will make them successful practitioners in the highly competitive criminal justice environment in Contra Costa County. Applicants undergo a screening, interview and testing process. Applications for temporary attorneys are accepted on a continuous basis by sending a resume and cover letter to Robin Lipetzky, Department Head at robin.lipetzky@pd.cccounty.us

DEL NORTE COUNTY

Rebecca Linkous
448 G Street, Ste. B
Crescent City, CA 95531
Phone: (707)464-4500
Fax: (707)465-6594
rebecca@rlinkouslaw.com

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the above office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.
EL DORADO COUNTY

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER: Teri M. Monterosso

Shingle Springs Office
3976 Durock Road, Suite 104
Shingle Springs, CA 95682
Phone: (530)621-6440
Fax: (530)387-2180

South Lake Tahoe Office
1360 Johnson Boulevard, Suite 106
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone: (530) 573-7955
Fax: (530)542-4801

Students interested in law clerk positions should contact the individual offices directly. Check the county’s Human Resources website for attorney job postings. For more information, contact Teri Monterosso at the Shingle Springs office.

FRESNO COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Elizabeth Diaz
2035 Fresno Street, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93721
Ph: (559) 600-3546
Fax: (559)600-1570

Fresno County Public Defender’s Office does not accept volunteer interns that are not enrolled in a school-sponsored internship program. Attorney positions are listed at the county’s Personnel Services website. Attorneys should also forward their cover letter and resume to Elizabeth Diaz, Public Defender at the above address, or ediaz@co.fresno.ca.us.

GLENN COUNTY

Albert Smith
229 Fifth Street
Colusa, CA 95932-1346
Ph: (530) 458- 8801
albertsmithlaw@yahoo.com
http://www.glenncourt.ca.gov/general_info/whoswho/public_defender.html
Glenn county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact Albert Smith to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY**

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Marek Reavis  
1001 Fourth Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
Ph: (707) 445-7634  
Fax: (707) 445-7320  
http://humboldtgov.org/1345/Public-Defender  
MReavis@co.humboldt.ca.us

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

This office accepts 1L, 2L and 3L law students for volunteer internships for the fall, spring, and summer. Interested students should contact Luke Brownfield, Assistant Public Defender at lbrownfield@co.humboldt.ca.us or mail cover letter, resume and writing sample to Luke Brownfield at the above address.  
NOTE: this office also handles dependency court matters.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

Openings are advertised on the county website. Interested individuals may send a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Luke Brownfield, Assistant Public Defender, at lbrownfield@co.humboldt.ca.us, expressing interest to work in Humboldt County. Mr. Reavis may then contact those applicants when an opening becomes available.

**IMPERIAL COUNTY**

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Benjamin Solario
LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The office has no structured program, but will hire volunteers, space permitting. Inquire about opportunities by contacting Benjamin Solario, Public Defender at (760) 482-4510 or bensolario@co.imperial.ca.us.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

California Bar membership required. Applicants file an application with the county’s Human Resources Department.

INYO COUNTY

Inyo County Administrative Officer
PO Drawer N
Independence, CA 93526
www.countyofinyo.org

Elizabeth Corpora
PO Box 1161
Bishop, CA 93515
Ph: (760) 872-8226

Sopie Bidet Ph: (760) 920-6120
Kristin Eisler Ph: (760) 582-2120
Josh Hillemeier Ph: (760) 462-5845
Stephen Place Ph: (760) 873-8711

Inyo county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the above office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

KERN COUNTY

CHIEF DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER: Peter Kang
1315 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Ph: (661) 868-4799
Fax: (661) 868-4785
www.co.kern.ca.us/pubdef/default.asp
Students interested in law clerk positions should contact the offices directly. Check Kern County’s Human Resources website [https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kernco/](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kernco/) for attorney job postings.

KINGS COUNTY

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates can contact the Kings County Superior Court to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

Kings County Superior Court  
1640 Kings County Drive  
Hanford CA 93230  
559-582-1010

LAKE COUNTY

Lake Indigent Defense, LLP  
390 North Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453  
(707) 900-5177  
lakeindigentdefense@gmail.com

Lake County does not have a Public Defender but appoints private attorneys on a contract basis. Interested graduates should contact Lake Indigent Defense, LLP by email to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions. They currently employ 12 defenders and welcome applications from interested law students or graduates who wish to experience criminal defense in a beautiful rural setting.

LASSEN COUNTY

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER: Mark Beallo  
2950 Riverside Drive  
Suite 103  
Susanville, CA 96130  
Ph: (530) 251-8312  
Fax: (530) 251-2671  
[http://www.co.lassen.ca.us](http://www.co.lassen.ca.us)  
beallo@co.lassen.ca.us

There is no formal law clerk program with Lassen County. Interested students and graduates should
contact the Lassen County Human Resources office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

CHIEF DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER: Ronald L. Brown  
19-513 Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center  
210 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Ph: (213) 974-2801  
Fax: (213) 625-5031  
http://pd.co.la.ca.us/

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The office accepts approximately 30 full-time summer interns. First and second year students are eligible to apply. They accept approximately 20 school year externs from 2L and 3L students. Visit http://pd.co.la.ca.us/About_employment.html for more details on summer and externship positions.

Submit cover letter and resume to Ms. Jean Burke, Assistant Law Clerk Coordinator. Ms. Burke coordinates the 2017 summer law clerk program. Her phone is (213) 893-6997 and email is jburke@pubdef.lacounty.gov.

LAW CLERK PROGRAM

Summer Clerks:
The Los Angeles County Public Defender Law Clerk Program introduces selected students to the operations of the Office, the court system and related agencies in the criminal justice system. Law Clerks are mentored by experienced criminal defense attorneys, who provide them with a real life, educational experience.

Law Clerks assists Deputy Public Defenders with a wide range of projects. Law Clerks are given the opportunity to observe and participate in client interviews, case strategy meetings and court proceedings. Law Clerks may complete research and writing projects including briefs, investigation requests and motions to be filed in court. They may also accompany the assigned attorney to jail interviews and attend public defender training sessions.

Law Clerks may be exposed to misdemeanor, felony, juvenile and appellate law practice. Law Clerks are not allowed to appear on the record. However, they are permitted to attend court proceedings and assist the assigned attorney during trial.

All Los Angeles County Public Defender Law Clerks are unpaid volunteers.

The 10 Week program starts Early June – Mid August. Apply (2Ls) October 15 - March 15, (1Ls) Early Dec – March 15.

Students applying for the Summer Clerk position should apply early and to make sure that they will be available in Southern California over the break to schedule an interview.
Fall & Spring Clerks:
Fall & Spring clerks also assist practicing public defenders with the same wide variety of projects as the Summer Clerks. The office requests fall and spring clerks volunteer two full days per week.

Fall Program: The 16 week program is from Mid-August – Early December.
Apply: September 1 - May 1
Spring Program: The 16 week program is from Early Jan – Late April.
Apply: August 15 – December 15

Fall and Spring Post Bar Clerks:
There are a limited number of full time fall and spring semester post-bar volunteer positions available. Please submit resume and cover letter by December 15, 2016 for spring post bar and May 1, 2017 for 2017 fall post bar.

For further information go to website:
http://pd.co.la.ca.us/lawclerk.pdf

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Students should check the county’s Human Resources website for attorney job postings.

Janice Fukai, Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender
Alternate Public Defender’s Office
35 Hall of Records
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 974-6626
jfukai@apd.lacounty.gov
http://apd.co.la.ca.us/

Office Description:
This office does not hire pre-bar, they typically hire no entry level attorneys and require one year of experience to apply. However, they generally hire about 25 attorneys per year. No training program is provided.
Application Procedure:
An online application is available at the Alternate Public Defender’s Office’s website. All questions with regard to filing a job application or availability of positions should be directed to Maria Cordero at (213) 974-6626 or emailed to lacapd@lacounty.gov

MADERA COUNTY

CHIEF DEFENSE ATTORNEY: Craig Collins
Fitzgerald, Alvarez & Ciummo
221 North I Street
Madera, CA 93637
Ph: (559) 674-4696
http://www.ciummolaw.com/index.html
This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the firm to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

MARIN COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Jose Varela  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 139 
San Rafael, CA 94903 
Ph: (415) 473-6321 
Fax: (415) 473-6898  
jvarela@marincounty.org 
www.co.marin.ca.us/pd

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The office accepts 1L and 2L students for summer law clerk positions. These are volunteer positions. The summer program will involve client interviewing, legal research, court appearances (motions, trials, bail reviews) for certified law students, and colleague mentoring. They plan to hire 3-6 students, who will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities including ride-alongs, court hearings, and client interviews. They would like a minimum commitment of 25-40 hours a week.

Applications for summer law clerk positions may be sent electronically. Submit a cover letter, resume, and transcript to Pedro Oliveros, Deputy Public Defender at poliveros@marincounty.org, or call (415) 473-6331. A writing sample may also be useful.

POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS

The office has accepted senior law clerks for those who are awaiting Bar results. The positions are volunteer. Submit a cover letter, resume, and transcript to Pedro Oliveros. You may contact him at if you have any questions.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

California Bar membership required. Submit a cover letter, resume, and transcript to Brian Morris, Assistant Public Defender. You may contact him at bmorris@marincounty.org if you have any questions. Applicants will be placed on a job list for 6 months and will be notified of any openings.

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Neal Douglass  
(559) 760-5149  
ndouglasslaw@outloo.com

Eugene Action
This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students should contact the county’s Personnel Department to inquire about the possibility of volunteering.

**MENDOCINO COUNTY**

PUBLIC Defender: Jeffrey A. Aaron  
175 South School Street  
Ukiah, CA 94582  
Ph: (707) 463-5433  
Fax: (707) 463-5435  
[http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/pubdef/](http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/pubdef/)

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

They do not have a formal summer program. Interested students and graduates should contact the above office to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

They only advertise for attorney positions once or twice a year, at no set time. Check the county’s Human Resources website [http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm](http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr/openings.htm) for attorney postings.

**MERCED COUNTY**

CHIEF DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER: Vincent Andrade  
2150 M Street, 1st floor  
Merced, CA 95340  
Ph: (209) 385-7692  
[www.co.merced.ca.us](http://www.co.merced.ca.us)

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

The Merced County Public Defender’s Volunteer Lawyer Program is an opportunity for local law firms to meet their pro bono goals as well as help their new associate attorneys get needed bench and jury
trial experience. This program provides an opportunity and a benefit to law firms as their new associates gain experience trying cases before juries and becoming comfortable in a courtroom setting. Participants gain training in trial skills, evidence and courtroom practice.

Local law firms are invited to assign their salaried associate attorney to the Merced County Public Defender for an eight week, twelve week, or sixteen week period on a part-time basis of approximately 10 hours per week. While the associate attorney is assigned to the Merced County Public Defender, they will continue to receive their regular salary from the private law firm while they work pro bono with the Merced County Public Defender. In the assigned time period, the firm's associate attorney will be given a misdemeanor caseload with the opportunity to litigate pre-trial motions as well as misdemeanor bench and jury trials. In addition, the associate attorney will receive training and instruction in criminal practice and procedure that would supplement the training the associate’s firm provides.

If you would like more information please contact Chief Deputy Public Defender Vincent Andrade at vandrade@co.merced.ca.us.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

All Employment Opportunities with the Merced County Public Defender's Office are listed on the County's website http://www.co.merced.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=73

Individuals interested in a position with the Merced County Public Defender's Office are welcome to submit a resume and cover letter to the Chief Public Defender, Vincent Andrade at vandrade@co.merced.ca.us.

Please note that you will not necessarily be affirmatively contacted when your resume and/or cover letter is received. In addition, you will not be contacted when a position becomes available. Instead, you will be required to apply for any open positions concerning this office through the county.

MODOC COUNTY

This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates can contact the Modoc County Superior Court to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

Robert A. Barclay Justice Center
205 South East Street
Alturas, CA 96101
Phone: (530) 233-6516
FAX: (530) 233-6500

MONO COUNTY

David Hammon
218 S. Main Street, Suite C
Mono County contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates can contact David Hammon to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions, at hammon52@yahoo.com

MONTEREY COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER:
111 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901
Ph: (831) 755-5058
Fax: (831) 755-5873
www.co.monterey.ca.us/pubdef/

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

This office does not have a formal internship program, but will take legal interns and law clerks on a volunteer basis. Send a cover letter explaining your interest in Monterey County Public Defender’s Office and a resume to askpubdef@co.monterey.ca.us, 831-755-5058.

POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS

The office has offered volunteer law clerks for those awaiting Bar results. Submit a cover letter, resume, and transcript to skpubdef@co.monterey.ca.us. You may contact him at if you have any questions. Students PTLS certified by the California State Bar are preferred.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

They accept applications only during open recruitments. Unsolicited resumes are reviewed and kept on file in their office. Attorney positions are listed on the county’s Human Resources Department at http://agency.governmentjobs.com/montereycounty/default.cfm

NAPA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Ronald Abernethy
1127 First Street, Suite 265
Napa, CA 94559
Ph: (707) 253-4442
Fax: (707) 253-4407
Our office offers internships and volunteer positions for law students, college students and high school students during the school year or summer. This is an excellent opportunity to observe and participate in Napa’s active legal system. Currently we do not offer paid internships; however, grants and scholarships for public interest positions like this are widely available. Interested students should contact the office to inquire about internships. For more information contact Terry Davis tdavis@co.napa.ca.us, please be prepared to provide a resume, writing sample and references.

Attorney openings are posted on the county’s Personnel Department website http://www.countyofnapa.org/hr/.

NEVADA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Keri Klein
224 Main Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
Ph: (530) 265-1400
Fax: (530) 478-5626
https://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/publicdefender/Pages/Home.aspx

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The Nevada County Public Defender’s Office has a volunteer internship program. Interested law students should contact Public Defender Keri Klein at keri.klein@co.nevada.ca.us. Alternately, students may send their cover letter, resume, and references to Keri Klein.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Attorney positions are advertised in the local newspapers and legal journals, as well as on the county’s website. Contact Public Defender Keri Klein to inquire about openings.

ORANGE COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Sharon Petrosino
14 Civic Center Plaza
Santa Ana, CA 92701
Ph: (714) 834-2144
Fax: (714) 834-2729
http://www.pubdef.ocgov.com/

ALTERNATE DEFENDER: Frank Davis
600 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Ste. 600
Santa Ana, CA 92701
Ph: (714) 568-4160
Fax: (714) 568-4200

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM
The office accepts 1Ls and 2Ls for volunteer summer internships. Certification is not required. Summer hours can be part-time or full-time. Students can apply for summer internships. Send an internship application (obtain online at http://www.pubdef.ocgov.com/emp/student_intern_program.htm), a cover letter and resume to Jennifer Ramirez, Intern Coordinator at Jennifer.Ramirez@pubdef.ocgov.com or fax: (714) 834-6650. Questions may be directed to Jennifer Ramirez at (714) 834-5194.

They accept 2Ls and 3Ls for academic year externships. Certification is not required. Students can apply for externships at any time throughout the year.

**POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS**

For graduating laws students who have taken the California Bar exam and are awaiting results, OC Public Defender’s Office offers an intense, full-time clerkship. “Post Bars” assist attorneys in every aspect of case preparation and advocate on behalf of clients in actual court proceedings. All Post Bar candidates will need to be “PTLS certified” by the California State Bar. Send application, cover letter and resume to Jennifer Ramirez.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

California Bar membership required. The office does hire recent graduates. Check the county’s Human Resources Department website for openings at http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oc/default.cfm.

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**PLACER COUNTY**

**Law Office of Dan Koukol**  
3785 Placer corporate Drive, Suite 550  
Rocklin, CA 95765  
(916) 644-1100

This county’s services are provided by a private contractor. They hire only senior felony level attorneys. Resumes may be directed to jobs@publicdefender.com. For further information, contact Mr. Hans Viken at the number listed.

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**PLUMAS COUNTY**

**Bill Abramson**  
PO Box 3242  
Quincy, CA 95971  
Ph: (530) 283-2410
Plumas County contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact the above attorneys to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Harmon
4200 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501
Ph: (951) 955-6015
Fax: (951) 955-6025
http://publicdef.co.riverside.ca.us/opencms/index.html

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM
The goal of our law clerk program is to help law students make the transition from the class room to the court room. Our office strives to create an environment that is conducive to learning and gaining as much practical experience as possible. To accomplish this goal our law clerks receive a three-day introductory orientation focusing on the processes of the office, ethics of the legal profession, trial advocacy, and general instruction in criminal defense. Additionally, law clerks participate in weekly interactive trial advocacy workshops developing and practicing skills such as jury voir dire, cross examination, and building effective opening statements and closing arguments. In addition, our clerks can take advantage of the many MCLE trainings, workshops, and seminars put on by members of our office throughout the year.

Law clerks are offered the opportunity to tour the facilities of several judicial partners such as the Riverside County Jail, the District Court of Appeals for the Fourth District, Division two, the California Rehabilitation Center State Prison, the Historic Riverside Court House, and a forensic laboratory.

The Spring Externship and Summer Law Clerk programs require a three day per week minimum commitment by students throughout the program. All students who participate in our Post Bar Law Clerk programs are required to make a four day per week minimum commitment throughout the program. Students are not permitted to work longer than 40 hours per week. Each program is
designed to teach students the fundamentals of a criminal defense practice. The program offers students daily exposure to the courts and the ability to work with our attorneys on their cases.

**Orientation**
All law clerks attend an orientation receiving instruction in the following areas:
1. The structure, policies, and processes of the office
2. The office’s various components and units (Misdemeanor Unit, Drug Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Mental Health Unit, General Felonies Unit, Complex Litigation/Death Penalty Unit, Juvenile Unit, and the Law and Motion Unit)
3. Investigations
4. Client Relations and Ethics of the legal profession
5. Motions practice
6. The Life of a Misdemeanor Case and Court Room Procedures
7. Trial Advocacy – Trial Process, Jury Selection, Opening Statements, Cross Examination, and Closing Arguments

**Program Dates:**
**Spring Intern/Extern Law Clerks (Current Students)**
   - Recruitment: September - November
   - Program Dates: 12 week program, January - April

**Spring Post Bar law Clerks (for those taking the February Bar Exam)**
   - Recruitment: September- November
   - Program Dates: 12 week program, Late February – Mid May

**Summer Law Clerks**
   - Recruitment: February -March
   - Program Dates: Late May – Early August

**Fall Post Bar Law Clerks**
   - Recruitment: April -June
   - Program Dates: Mid-August – Mid November

**Applications:** Please address your cover letter to Eric Keen, Volunteer Program Coordinator and email your cover letter and resume to Eric Keen at ekeen@co.riverside.ca.us. For more information, call (951) 955-6185.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**
Visit the Riverside County Personnel website http://agency.governmentjobs.com/riverside/default.cfm for current openings.

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steven Garrett
700 H Street, Suite 0270
Sacramento, CA 95814
Ph: (916) 874-6411
Fax: (916) 874-8707
http://www.publicdefender.saccounty.net/

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

They hire only 2Ls who have taken Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Evidence (though Evidence can be taken concurrently). Full-time and part-time positions are available; however, students must work at least 15 hours per week. Positions are available in the following divisions: Misdemeanor, Juvenile, Felony (General Felony, Drug Court, Domestic Violence, Homicides, and Death Penalty), Conservatorship and Research. Check the Employment Opportunities section of the office website for further details. Cover letters and resumes are accepted on a continuous basis. Submit materials to the attention of the **LRA Hiring Attorney** at the above address.

**POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS**

Full-time and part-time positions are available. Positions are available in the following divisions: Misdemeanor, Juvenile, Felony (General Felony, Drug Court, Domestic Violence, Homicides, and Death Penalty), Conservatorship and Research. Check the Employment Opportunities section of the office website for further details. Cover letters and resumes are accepted on a continuous basis. Submit materials to the attention of the **LRA Hiring Attorney** at the above address.

Law students or graduates who want a clinical or post-bar position should contact the Intern Supervisor at the Public Defender's Office at 916/874-6417.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

Employment opportunities are listed on the county's Personnel Department website at [http://www.personnel.saccounty.net/Pages/EmploymentServices_Jobs.aspx](http://www.personnel.saccounty.net/Pages/EmploymentServices_Jobs.aspx). County application and civil service exam required. Once you go through the application process, you will be ranked. You must place in one of the first three ranks to be eligible for a position. When there is an opening, the Public Defender's Office will contact Personnel and request the hiring list. California Bar membership required.

**SAN BENITO COUNTY**

**Gregory LaForge**  
Law Office of Gregory LaForge  
339 Seventh Street, Suite G  
Hollister, CA 95023  
Ph: (831) 636-9199  
Fax: (831) 636-9499  
lawforge@pacbell.net  
www.san-benito.ca.us/

San Benito County contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact **Gregory LaForge** to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions, at lawforge@pacbell.net.
Student Law Clerk

The San Bernardino County Office of the Public Defender offers full-time and part-time volunteer clerkships to law students who are seeking practical legal experience in criminal law over the summer or while awaiting bar results.

Serving under attorney supervision and after completing a basic skills training program, a summer or a post-bar law clerk supports attorney litigation in the following ways:

- Researching, writing, and filing appeals, petitions, and motions
- Preparing pleadings, memoranda, and other legal documents
- Maintaining and organizing cases and legal reference files
- Litigating motions in the San Bernardino County Superior Court if the law clerk has received certification from the California State Bar.

We recruit summer and post-bar law clerks each year between August and May. Offers are made to law clerks on a rolling basis. Our summer clerkships begin in late May and conclude in late August, and our post-bar clerkships begin in late August and conclude in early December.

If you wish to apply for a clerkship, please submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and list of references to Geoff Canty, Law Clerk Program Coordinator, tbaca@pd.sbcounty.gov. Applicants may include a transcript if desired.

Deputy Public Defender

The San Bernardino County Office of the Public Defender offers excellent opportunities for dedicated criminal defense litigators who desire to work in a supportive and creative environment.

The department assigns mentors to new law clerks, new Deputy Public Defenders, and Deputy Public Defenders who are beginning a new practice area within the department. In addition, our collegial atmosphere promotes informal interaction among attorneys, investigators, and clerical assistants, facilitating open discussions on all aspects of work.

An accredited continuing legal education (CLE) provider, our training department provides specialized programs in legal knowledge, trial skills, and trial advocacy. We use community legal experts and in-house experts to train our lawyers. We also provide financial assistance for staff to attend legal
trainings sponsored by outside providers, such as the California Public Defenders Association and California Attorneys for Criminal Justice.

The department provides all staff with state-of-the-art resources and equipment. Deputy Public Defenders use iPads to access client files, conduct legal research, and organize and prepare cases for trial.

Generations of San Bernardino County Public Defenders have provided passionate advocacy, skilled legal counsel, and distinctive leadership to our profession and to the communities we serve.

For more information about positions, visit San Bernardino County Human Resource site at http://cms.sbcounty.gov/hr/Home.aspx.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Randy Mize
450 B Street, Suite 1100
San Diego, CA 92101
Ph: (619) 338-4700
Fax: (619) 338-4643
http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/public_defender/Volunteers.html

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

Interns are accepted for fall, winter, spring, and summer. It is recommended but not required that all summer interns be certified by the State Bar. Each intern is given a felony attorney mentor and immediate courtroom experience in the form of assisting at arraignments, bail reviews and probation violation hearings. Interns also research and write motions. Although interns do not receive monetary compensation, they may receive clinical education credits. 2L and 3L students are preferred, but there are a limited number of positions for 1Ls in the Summer Intern Program. Students PTLS certified by the California State Bar are preferred. Interns must commit a minimum of 16 hours per week during school semesters and a minimum of 32 hours per week during the summer. The Employment Section of the office website has additional information on the winter, spring, and summer programs, including application timelines http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/public_defender/Volunteers.html#ACS.

POST BAR CLERKSHIPS

Practice Area & Minimum Requirements

All Post Bars are placed in the Adult Criminal Division of the Primary Public Defender (PPD) at the Main Office. Post-Bars are assigned to the Central Misdemeanor Unit.

The Post Bar Clerkship affords a select group of students the opportunity to experience the demanding yet highly rewarding practice of a public defender. Our nationally recognized program is designed to give students not just an understanding of the criminal justice system, but hands-on experience with trial advocacy and representing misdemeanor clients.
In addition, all Post-Bar clerks will participate in our Trial Skills Academy, a comprehensive courtroom advocacy program taught by experienced trial attorneys. The training staff is comprised of veteran trial attorneys, many of whom are instructors at the National Institute for Trial Advocacy and the local law schools. These professionals take pride in producing trial artists in the courtroom and in developing attorneys’ natural abilities.

**Post Bar Clerkship Requirements**

- Post Bars must attend and graduate from an ABA approved law school.
- Post Bars must be **PTLS Certified**.
- Applicants should have prior work/volunteer experience in a public defender office or other criminal defense agency.
- The Post Bar clerkship is a full time, 40 hour per week, commitment

Go to [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/public_defender/Volunteers.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/public_defender/Volunteers.html) for program dates and application deadlines.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

California Bar membership required. New attorneys attend a week-long orientation focusing on substantive law and courtroom procedure. They are immediately assigned to a team and given a misdemeanor caseload. An experienced team leader supervises and provides support and direction. Education is ongoing in the form of short training seminars focusing on evidence and the various phases of trial practice. Attorneys who have demonstrated trial proficiency and good legal skills are promoted to a felony team. The Employment Section of the office website has additional information. Employment opportunities are listed on the county’s Human Resources website, [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/hr/](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/hr/). County application and civil service exam required.

**SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY**

**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Monohar Raju  
555 7th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Ph: (415) 553-1671  
Fax: (415) 553-9810  
[http://sfpublicdefender.org/](http://sfpublicdefender.org/)  
[http://sfpublicdefender.org/careers/](http://sfpublicdefender.org/careers/)

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

The Office’s nationally recognized program is designed to give students not just an understanding of the criminal justice system, but hands-on experience with representing clients. Interns are assigned to work with a staff attorney, writing motions, meeting clients, attending case conferences, reviewing investigation results and attending consultations with experts. Students certified to practice law may also be given the opportunity to argue motion on behalf of clients in court.

We are looking for students who are committed to indigent criminal defense. Students with a general interest in criminal law or who view being a prosecutor as a possible career choice should not apply. We are looking for students with a passion for working for the underprivileged, the marginalized and
the forgotten in society. We want students with strong written and oral communication skills, who are willing to think like advocates and fight for our clients.

Go to: http://sfpublicdefender.org/careers/interns/ for program dates and application procedures. Contact Jacque Wilson at Pubdef.internship@sfgov.org with questions.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Deputy Public Defender openings are for members in good standing with the California Bar Association. Prior trial experience is strongly considered. Overall commitment to excellence and dedication to indigent criminal defense is a must. Attorneys are responsible for handling a demanding caseload through all phases of litigation while coordinating the efforts of their support team, including investigators, paralegals, experts and legal processing clerks. Professional development by attending trainings both within and without the office expected. Salaries start at $98,514. Visit San Francisco County Department of Human Resources website for current openings, https://www.jobaps.com/SF/.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Public Defender Miriam Lyell
102 South San Joaquin Street
Stockton, CA 95202
Ph: (209) 468-2730
Fax: (209) 468-2267
http://www.sjgov.org/pubdefender/

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The office accepts volunteers during the summer, who will gain exposure to all elements of criminal defense practice and also interview out of custody clients. First year students are eligible to apply. Interested students should send a resume, cover letter, and writing sample to Miriam Lyell, Public Defender at the above address or email to mlyell@sjgov.org. Questions may be directed to Ms. Lyell by email or at (209) 468-2756, or Vickie Delph at vdelph@sjgov.org or (209) 468-1987.

POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS

The office will accept recent graduates before they pass the Bar as temporary senior law clerks. Third year students are eligible to apply. They will only accept volunteer clerks if they know they will be able to hire them permanently after they pass the California Bar. Clerks start working in the law library, even if they have significant experience. Send a resume, cover letter, and writing sample to Miriam Lyell, Public Defender at the above address or email to mlyell@sjgov.org

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

This is a civil service office. Employment opportunities for Deputy Public Defenders are listed on the county’s Human Resources website https://www.jobaps.com/sjq/sup/images/default.asp. They hire one or two entry-level Deputy Public Defenders a year. California Bar membership required.
There are three contract firms that serve as public defenders in this county. The Maguire & Ashbaugh firm is the largest, and has 18 subcontractors. This office does not have summer or academic year programs for law students. Attorney openings are rare, but interested graduates can submit resumes which they keep on file. When an attorney position is open they will advertise at law schools and various online resources.

San Mateo County contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact Lisa Maguire, Chief Defender to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions, at Lisam@smcba.org.

Santa Barbara County Public Defender offers summer internships for first and second year law
students. Students work closely with attorneys in researching, drafting motions, preparing and helping to present cases. If the student is certified by the State Bar of California may appear in court at hearings under the supervision of an attorney. The office hires 2-4 volunteer students to work in their Santa Barbara and Santa Maria offices. Applications are accepted through February and sections are made in late March. To apply, submit a resume, cover letter, reference list, writing sample and transcripts to Giovanni Giordani at ggiorda@co.santa-barbara.ca.us or call (805) 568-3470.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

New Attorneys generally are assigned to the misdemeanor department. California Bar membership required. Attorney applicants must submit an application through the county’s Human Resources Department at https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sbcounty. Interested attorneys are also encouraged to arrange an informational interview by contacting the office.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Molly O’Neal
Public Defender Main Office
120 West Mission Street
San Jose, CA 95110
Ph: (408) 299-7700
http://www.sccgov.org/sites/pdo/jobs/Pages/opportunities.aspx

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The Office has a variety of internships available for law students and undergraduate students assisting lawyers, investigators or paralegals as a volunteer or for school credit. Each provides valuable experience for individuals interested in pursuing employment in the criminal justice system. Interested applicants may complete the online application at https://www.sccgov.org/sites/pdo/jobs/Pages/opportunities.aspx. Inquiries may be directed to Personnel Secretary at Rebecca.blanco@pdo.sccgov.org or by calling the main office.

LEGAL RESEARCH CLERK OPPORTUNITIES

Research clerks research and write various pretrial motions in felony cases, primarily motions to suppress evidence and motions to dismiss the information for sufficiency of the evidence, under the supervision of attorneys on the Research Team. The research clerks are certified by the California State Bar and may appear in court under the supervision of an attorney. The research clerks are law students or recent graduates. Research clerks must be eligible for California State Bar Certification. Also, candidates must have completed Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Evidence, and have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

The research clerk positions are paid positions. More information about hiring timelines, visit https://www.sccgov.org/sites/pdo/jobs/Pages/lrcopportunities.aspx.

If you are interested in a position as a research clerk, you must submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample (no more than 10 pages long) to Charles Hendrickson. You may mail or email the
ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Visit the Employee Service Agency https://www.sccgov.org/sites/esa/Pages/Employee-Services-Agency.aspx, County of Santa Clara for attorney job postings.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Lawrence Biggam
2103 North Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Ph: (831) 429-1311
Fax: (831) 429-5664
www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The office accepts 2-4 law students each summer. They will accept both 1Ls and 2Ls. Interested students should send a cover letter, resume and writing sample to James McMillin, at jmcmillin@scdefenders.com.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Interested graduates should contact Lawrence Biggam, Public Defender to inquire about attorney positions.

SHASTA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Jeffrey E. Gorder
1815 Yuba Street
Redding, CA 96001
Ph: (530) 245-7598
Fax: (530) 245-7560
www.co.shasta.ca.us/

This county does not have a formal intern program. However, occasionally the office will accept volunteer interns. Interested students should contact the office directly, at jgorder@co.shasta.ca.us. The office posts attorney positions on the county website.

SIERRA COUNTY

J. Lon Cooper
This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact J. Lon Cooper to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions at jho@nccn.net.

**SISKIYOU COUNTY**

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Ms. Lael Kayfetz  
322 ½ West Center Street  
Yreka, CA 96097  
Ph: (530) 842-8105  
http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/page/public-defenders-office

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

There is no formal summer program. Interested students may call the office to inquire whether there is space to accommodate volunteers, or email Ms. Kayfetz at ikayfetz@co.siskiyou.ca.us

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

California Bar membership required. Job vacancies are posted on the county’s website at http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/.

**SOLANO COUNTY**

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Elena D'Agustino  
675 Texas St. Suite 3500  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533  
Ph: (707) 784-6700  
Fax: (707) 784-6747  

**LAW STUDENT & POST-BAR INTERNSHIP**

The Solano County Public Defender’s Office accepts law student and post-bar interns. Interested students and graduates should review the Intern Recruitment Information on the above website and may contact Tamani Taylor, Chief Deputy Public Defender at (707) 784-6700 or ttaylor@solanocounty.com with any questions.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

Interested candidates should visit county’s Human Resources’ website at http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/HR/jobs/currentopps/
SONOMA COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Kathleen Pozzi
600 Administration Drive
First Floor-room 111
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Ph: (707) 565-2791
Fax: (707) 526-7667
http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Public-Defender/

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

Interested candidates should inquire about positions with Kathleen Pozzi at the contact information listed above.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

California Bar membership required. Interested candidates should monitor job openings on the county website. https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/HR/Recruitment-and-Classification/?src=HomeGB11

STANISLAUS COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Tim Bazar
1021 I Street, Suite 201
Modesto, CA 95353-3428
Ph: (209) 525-4200
Fax: (209) 525-4244
http://www.stancounty.com/publicdefender

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

Stanislaus County accepts first year students, second year students and post bar volunteers. Second year students usually get more out of the internship if they can be certified by the State Bar. This is an unpaid internship with training provided that will serve students well as trial attorneys of the future.

Interested students should email Rafael Bito, Deputy Public Defender at bitor@stancounty.com a cover letter and resume. Applications are accepted year round. For summer 2017, interviews will be conducted as resumes are received, until March or until vacancies for the summer are filled. Interviews frequently are conducted over the phone given most campuses are very distant from Modesto. For questions, contact Rafael Bito at 209-525-4200.
ATTORNEY POSITIONS

For current openings, interested candidates should check the county’s Human Resources website at https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/stanislaus/.

SUTTER COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Mark Van den Heuvel
604 B Street, Suite 1
Yuba City, CA 95991
Ph: (530) 822-7355
Fax: (530) 673-7967
www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/pd/pd_home

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

There is no formal summer program. However, interested students should submit a cover letter and resume to Mark Van den Heuvel, Public Defender, at mvandenheuvel@co.sutter.ca.us. He is willing to arrange for county funding for summer law clerks. First year students are eligible, second year students are preferred.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to Mark Van den Heuvel, Public Defender. Applicants will be contacted when an opening becomes available.

TEHAMA COUNTY

Kenneth Miller
857 Jefferson Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Ph: (530) 529-1794
doglawyer2000@yahoo.com

http://www.co.tehama.ca.us/

This county contracts out its public defender work to the attorneys above. Interested students and graduates should contact them directly to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

TRINITY COUNTY

Larry Olsen
This county contracts out its public defender work. Interested students and graduates should contact
the above attorneys to inquire about law clerk or attorney positions.

TULARE COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Lisa Berolino
County Civic Center
Courthouse Room G-35
221 South Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93291
Ph: (559) 636-4500
http://www.co.tulare.ca.us/government/public/default.asp

LAW CLERK POSITIONS
Students interested in law clerk positions should send cover letter and resume directly to Supervising
Law Clerk Sharleen Flores at smflores@co.tulare.ca.us and Cc: Assistant Public Defender Thomas
McGuire at tmcguire@co.tulare.ca.us and Stephanie Mejia at SAMejia@co.tulare.ca.us.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS
Interested candidates should send cover letter and resume directly to Assistant Public Defender
Thomas McGuire at tmcguire@co.tulare.ca.us and Stephanie Mejia at SAMejia@co.tulare.ca.us.

TUOLUMNE COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Scott Gross
99 North Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370
Ph: (209) 533-6370
Fax: (209) 532-1185
http://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/Index.aspx?NID=432

This is a very small office with no summer program due to limited space. Attorney positions are
advertised in legal publications such as the Daily Journal. All other inquiries should be directed to
Scott Gross at sgross@co.tuolumne.ca.us
LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The process to become a clerk at the Ventura County Public Defender’s Office is competitive. Clerks are selected based on their passion for public defense and demonstrated commitment to excellence. Applicants face a three-stage screening process. First, the applicant must submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Rod Kodman, Chief Deputy Public Defender and clerkship supervisor. The cover letter should convey why the applicant wants to clerk for the Ventura County Public Defender’s Office and why the office should select the applicant. If the applicant appears to be suited for the program, he or she will interview with Mr. Kodman in person. If the interview goes well, the applicant will return a third time to shadow an attorney mentor. After the shadow day, if the office determines the applicant is a good match for the program, the applicant will receive a clerkship offer. Clerkships are unpaid and carry no guarantee of future employment with the office.

Suggested Application Times:
Fall Post-Bar (for those taking a July bar exam) - September of the Preceding Year
Spring Post-Bar (for those taking a February bar exam) - May of the Preceding Year
Summer Clerkship for Rising Second and Third Year Law Students* - October of the Preceding Year
Fall Clerkship for Second or Third Year Law Students - May 1st of the Same Year
Spring Clerkship for Second or Third Year Law Students - October 1st of the Same Year

*Clerk will have completed one or two years of law school before beginning summer clerkship.

Clerks are encouraged to become “certified law clerks” pursuant to California Bar Association Rules Governing the Practical Training of Law Students, Rule 3.4 before the clerkship begins. Only certified clerks may appear on the record in case proceedings. The Ventura County Public Defender’s Office will assist qualified clerks to become certified.

Applicants seeking to clerk with the office for multiple sessions receive preference in the screening process. The clerkship program is designed to accept law clerks who will return for several sessions, including full-time summer sessions (40-hours per week minimum), part-time spring and/or fall sessions (two days per week minimum), and for some, a post-bar clerkship (40-hours per week minimum). As the clerk remains with the office, he or she receives increasing responsibility and emerges from the program prepared to hit the ground running in public defense.

Direct Applications to: Rod Kodman, Chief Deputy Public Defender at rod.kodman@ventura.org.
ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Positions are advertised on the county’s Personnel website at https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ventura and advertised in the Daily Journal. The Office encourages those interested to send cover letters and resumes at any time. The office keeps them on file and will contact candidates about openings.

YOLO COUNTY

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Tracie Olson
814 North Street
Woodland, CA 95695
Ph: (530) 666-8165
Fax: (530) 666-8405

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

Each year the Yolo County Public Defender's Office selects approximately fifteen to twenty law students who participate in volunteer internships. Typically, law students will be selected to volunteer at the Yolo County Public Defender's Office through an interview process during on campus interviews.

Law students who are certified to appear in court will, under the supervision of an attorney, interview clients, represent clients in court proceedings, conduct research and writing, draft motions, argue motions, and may be given the opportunity to represent clients during a jury trial.

Law students who are not certified to appear in court will, under the supervision of an attorney, interview clients, conduct research and writing for attorneys, draft motions for attorneys, help work on the sealing of juvenile records, and may attend court to watch their work in practice.

If you are a law student and are interested in an internship with the Yolo County Public Defender's Office you may send your resume and cover letter to Misdemeanor/Juvenile Supervisor, Ron Johnson, at ronald.johnson@yolocounty.org.

POST BAR INTERNSHIP

Attorneys who are licensed to practice law in the state of California may apply for volunteer attorney positions. Although these positions are unpaid, volunteer attorneys will be given the opportunity to litigate cases which will provide them with a significant advantage in a competitive job market.

Volunteer attorneys will meet with clients, author and argue motions, represent clients in court, handle court calendars, and represent clients at all stages of proceedings including arraignment, preliminary hearings, and trials.
If you are licensed to practice law and are interested in a volunteer attorney position please send your resume and cover letter to Supervisor, Ron Johnson, at ronald.johnson@yolocounty.org.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

This is a civil service office. Openings are posted on the county’s Personnel Department website at http://agency.governmentjobs.com/yolococa/default.cfm.

Yuba County

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Brain J. Davis
303 Sixth Street
Marysville, CA 95901
Ph: (530) 741-2331
Fax: (530) 741-2254
www.co.yuba.ca.us

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

There is no formal summer program, but the office hires summer volunteers. Contact the office for more information. They also accept externs during the school year. Applications should include a resume and cover letter. Electronic applications are accepted. Phone interviews are not offered.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

California Bar membership required. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply for attorney positions, when licensed. All positions are posted on the county’s Personnel website. Interested candidates can contact the office for more information.

Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.

Federal Defenders of San Diego is a private, non-profit organization based in San Diego with a branch office in El Centro, California, representing indigent persons accused of federal criminal offenses.
We are located in the Southern District of California. Our close proximity to the U.S.-Mexican border has a strong influence on our caseload. The majority of our clients are charged with drug and immigration related offenses. Our attorneys also have the opportunity to represent clients facing a wide variety of federal charges, including bank robbery, fraud, counterfeiting, pornography, assault and firearms offenses.

Our staff currently consists of over 60 attorneys and 70 support personnel, many of whom are bilingual and bicultural. We have an aggressive and distinguished appellate department. Our attorneys are assisted by highly trained and dedicated investigators and have the benefit of in-house interpreter and bond departments.

Members of the Federal Defenders team share a commitment to excellence and a passion for justice in representing indigent people accused of myriad federal criminal offenses. We combine hard work, constant training and intense dedication in the defense of each of our clients.

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

Federal Defenders seeks to recruit law students who wish to work in an office dedicated to the zealous defense of the indigent accused. Interns will work with attorneys in preparation for trials, complete client visits, perform legal research, and go on investigations. Due to local court rules, law students are not permitted to represent individuals in court. Internships are unpaid and thus students are encouraged to seek alternate sources of funding.

Applicants to the program must be attending an accredited law school. For fall and spring semester internships, 2L and 3L students are considered. For summer internships, only students who are rising 3Ls are considered. It is preferred that interns have completed Evidence and Criminal Procedure courses prior to the commencement of the internship. The program seeks applicants with strong written and oral communication skills and a demonstrated interest to public interest law. The program seeks applicants with strong written and oral communication skills and a demonstrated interest to public interest law.

To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, unofficial transcript, and writing sample by email to the Legal Intern Committee at: internapp@fdsdi.com. Once the entire application packet is received and reviewed, you may be contacted to schedule an interview. Interviews are conducted over the phone or in person, depending on where you are located. Decisions are generally made shortly after the interview. Please note that the hiring process is extremely competitive, particularly for the summer session.

Additionally, trial attorneys from FDSDI attend several career fairs, diversity fairs, and other large recruitment events across major cities in the United States to recruit the best potential participants for our Legal Intern Program. If you are interested in an internship in the office, it is strongly encouraged that you make an effort to meet with FDSDI at one of the career fairs. They usually attend Northern California Public Interest/Public Sector Career Day at Hastings.

FDSDI is strongly committed to the principle of diversity and actively encourages applications from people of varied and diverse backgrounds. **DEADLINE:** Applications for the Legal Intern Program are accepted on a rolling-basis, however serious applicants are encouraged to submit their materials as early as possible.

**POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS**
We hire attorneys directly out of law school (see “Attorney Position”). They are recruited during their 3L year and start with us in early October. Prior to bar passage, they serve as law clerks. However, we do not hire law clerks solely for the pre-bar passage time.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**

If you would like to submit your application to be considered when a vacancy does arise, please email a cover letter, resume, transcript, and writing sample to Joshua Jones at Joshua_Jones@fd.org

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**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER: CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

CHIEF DEFENDER: Cuauhtemoc Ortega  
321 East Second Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Ph: (213) 894-2854  
Fax: (213) 894-0081

**LAW STUDENT PROGRAM**

The Federal Public Defender’s Office for the Central District of California (FPD-CDCA) offers an intense and rewarding experience to law students and recent post-bar graduates who wish to volunteer in an office dedicated to the zealous defense of the indigent accused. Law clerks assist trial lawyers in all aspects of work, including performing legal research, drafting pleadings, analyzing discovery, assisting with trial preparation, visiting clients and helping to develop sentencing mitigation. They offer a robust, formal training program (include previous language) as well as an informal training resulting from working closely with trial attorneys on case-specific projects.

During the summer, law clerks agree to volunteer 40 hours a week. During the school year, law clerks agree to volunteer anywhere from 15 hours to 40 hours a week.

Students interested in working during the summer should submit a cover letter, resume, unofficial transcript, and writing sample by email to the Trial Law Clerk Program at internships@fpdcdca.org.

Direct applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with a final deadline of the last day in January. We recommend that you submit your materials as early as possible.

For the semester program applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Again, we recommend that you submit your materials as early as possible.

Full-time volunteer positions are available to post bar candidates.

**ATTORNEY POSITIONS**
The office does not hire directly out of law school. When openings become available they are advertised in legal publications and online at https://www.fd.org/navigation/employment.

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER: NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FEDERAL DEFENDER: Steve Kalar
Office of the Federal Public Defender
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36106
Room 19-6884
San Francisco, CA 94102
Ph: (415) 436-7700
Fax: (415) 436-7706
www.ndcalfpd.org/

Oakland Office
Office of the Federal Public Defender
1301 Clay Street, Ste. 1350N
Oakland, CA 94612
Ph: (510) 637-3500

San Jose Office
Office of the Federal Public Defender
55 South Market Street, Ste. 820
San Jose, CA 95113
Ph: (408) 291-7753

LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

Students have the opportunity to observe all phases of a criminal case. Although the emphasis is on research and writing, students attend court proceedings and client and witness interviews. They are often asked to assist in the investigation of cases and help attorneys prepare for trial. Students also provide direct assistance to those who have received tickets for alleged federal and state code violations while on federal property.

They hire 2L students. Students are required to have successfully completed courses in Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, and Constitutional Law. Outstanding 1Ls may apply for any remaining openings per ABA rules and deadlines. Applications from 2L students must be received by September 14 of the year before the summer of employment.

The office accepts school year externs. Applicants for the fall or spring semesters should have successfully completed courses in Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, and Constitutional Law by the position’s start date. Second and third year students are encouraged to apply. Applications are taken year round.

Interested students should send a cover letter, resume, brief writing sample, transcript, and three references to the attention of the Law Clerk Supervisor at the appropriate office listed above.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Positions are posted at https://www.fd.org/navigation/employment and advertised in Northern California legal media. California Bar membership required. The office generally does not hire attorneys directly out of law school but do hire attorneys who have just finished a federal judicial clerkship.
LAW STUDENT PROGRAM

The Legal Intern positions allow students to gain experience in researching issues; writing memoranda of findings, briefs, and motions; and observing federal court proceedings. Employment in this program is restricted to students enrolled in or recent graduates of a 3 or 4 year law school curriculum leading to a degree, and to persons who have been admitted to the State Bar of California within the past 12 months. Prefer second semester, second year day or third year evening students but will accept some first year day or second year evening students in the summer. To qualify for the position of Legal Intern during the school year, a person must have completed their first year at an accredited law school and successfully completed courses in criminal procedure and evidence.

They take full-time or part-time volunteers, either 1Ls or 2Ls. They have offices in Sacramento and Fresno. The units are Misdemeanor, Felony, and Capital Habeas. See the employment section of the office website for further details [http://www.cae-fpd.org/intern.html](http://www.cae-fpd.org/intern.html).

For consideration, all applicants must meet the minimum qualifications and submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Linda Allison, Chief Assistant Federal Defender at Linda_Allison@fd.org or Rachelle Barbour, Assistant Federal Defender at Rachelle_Barbour@fd.org before the following deadlines: February 15 for summer positions, June 30 for fall semester positions, and October 30 for spring semester positions.

POST GRADUATE LAW CLERKS

The office has retained graduates after they have taken the Bar as clerks or even paralegals until they pass the Bar. Check employment section of the office website for openings.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

They will hire entry-level attorneys if they have funding for positions at the start of the fiscal year (October), or if someone transfers or leaves for some other reason. They do sometimes hire right out of law school, and you can apply before you have passed the Bar. They recruit year round even if there are no current openings; submit cover letter, resume, and writing sample to the attention of Personnel. Submit to either the Sacramento or Fresno offices. Open positions will be advertised on their website [https://www.fd.org/navigation/employment](https://www.fd.org/navigation/employment) and in the legal media. They have a preference for people from the area.
The Office of the State Public Defender offers bright, energetic, and committed law students the opportunity to participate in a 10-week summer internship from June until August or during a semester of the academic year. The Office of the State Public Defender (OSPD) has an exclusive focus on death penalty cases, and represents more than 130 people on California's death row. OSPD litigates these cases both on appeal and habeas corpus. The work of the office is often at the cutting edge of criminal law. We have appeared in the California Supreme Court in over 250 cases and in the United States Supreme Court in a half dozen cases where certiorari review was granted. We have been responsible for major developments in the areas of capital litigation, due process, right to counsel, confessions, jury selection, search and seizure, sentencing and many other issues. The work of the Office of the State Public Defender is complex and challenging, and presents a unique personal and professional opportunity for those interested in criminal defense.

Summer interns assist with preparing appeals or habeas corpus petitions to the California Supreme Court. Responsibilities may include: legal and factual research on guilt/innocence, forensic, mental health, client social history and other issues; collecting or summarizing documents, investigation and field work (expenses paid); drafting memos and legal pleadings; preparing for hearings and other tasks. Students participate in team meetings. Summer students attend a week's worth of formal training at the beginning of the summer, in addition to informal training offered throughout the summer.

The internship is unpaid. Please include in the application a letter of interest, resume, and writing sample emailed to internprogram@ospd.ca.gov or mailed to:

Office of the State Public Defender
Intern Program
1111 Broadway, 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Two references must be provided upon request. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. Call (510) 267-3300 with any questions. Interns during the academic year must make a minimum commitment of 16 hours per week.

ATTORNEY POSITIONS

Attorneys are hired under state civil service procedures. Legal Counsel positions are the entry-level position for attorneys admitted to the Bar. They have hired attorneys just out of law school. It does help your chances if you clerk there, but is no guarantee of a job. Deputy State Public Defenders are the associate attorney positions for attorneys with some experience in the practice of appellate or criminal law. Check the office website at http://www.ospd.ca.gov/jobs/jobs.asp for openings and exam information. A writing sample will be required prior to appointment.