

COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES
Boston, MA

DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL
PUBLIC DEFENDER DIVISION

The Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) is the state agency in Massachusetts responsible for providing legal services to indigent persons in criminal and civil matters in which the state or federal Constitutions, state statute or case law require the appointment of counsel for any person who cannot afford to retain counsel. The agency provides representation in criminal, delinquency, youthful offender, child welfare, mental health, sexually dangerous person and sex offender registry cases, as well as appeals and post-conviction cases related to those matters.

CPCS seeks applications for the position of Deputy Chief Counsel for the Public Defender Division. The Public Defender Division provides legal services to indigent adults facing criminal charges. It also represents clients in proceedings under G.L. c. 123A (“sexually dangerous persons” cases). The Public Defender Division has its administrative office in Boston. The Public Defender Division currently has 27 Superior Court and District Court trial offices located throughout the state, as well as other specialized units including Appeals, Immigration Impact, Special Litigation, Alternative Commitment (G.L. c. 123A), and Criminal Defense Training. At present, there are approximately 275 attorneys and 125 other staff members in the Public Defender Division. (CPCS also utilizes private attorneys to provide criminal defense representation. Oversight of those attorneys is provided through the Private Counsel Division).

The Deputy Chief Counsel for the Public Defender Division is a member of the CPCS senior management team that develops and implements agency fiscal, operational, human resource and legislative policies. The Deputy Chief Counsel works closely with the Managing Directors for the Public Defender Division in managing the operations of the Division. The Deputy Chief Counsel is hired by the agency’s fifteen-member governing board and reports to the Chief Counsel.

The Deputy Chief Counsel for the Public Defender Division is Responsible for:

- Oversight of all Public Defender Division trial offices located throughout the state. Each office is headed by a managing attorney who reports to the Deputy Chief Counsel and the Managing Directors for the Public Defender Division. In addition to trial attorneys who provide direct legal services to clients in criminal cases, trial offices have investigative, social work, and clerical support staff.
- Oversight of the Appeals Unit, the Immigration Impact Unit, the Special Litigation Unit, and the Alternative Commitment Unit.
- Oversight of hiring of Public Defender Division staff.
- Oversight of criminal defense training for Public Defender Division staff.
- Oversight of the CPCS Chief Investigator and the Director of Social Services.
- Ensuring compliance by staff with CPCS criminal defense performance standards and other agency policies and procedures, and investigating complaints.

- The Public Defender Division content of the CPCS website.
- Division-wide planning.
- Internal and external leadership of and advocacy for the Public Defender Division and its clients.
- Periodic reports regarding the Public Defender Division to the CPCS governing board.

Qualifications and Requirements:

Candidates must possess strong leadership skills and qualities, embrace the principles of zealous advocacy and community oriented defense in the representation of indigent clients for whom there is a right to court-appointed counsel, and have the ability to promote the provision of excellent representation by staff members. Candidates must have strong analytical, interpersonal, communication, negotiation, and decision-making skills. Candidates must have the ability to develop, support, and mentor staff. They must have the ability to work with courts and other personnel in the criminal justice system.

Candidates must have a demonstrated commitment to the representation of indigent persons accused of crime, and a minimum of ten (10) years' experience as an attorney (including both experience representing indigent criminal clients and significant jury trial experience). Candidates must possess in-depth knowledge of criminal law and procedure, strong criminal defense litigation skills, and be a member of, or eligible for admission to, the Massachusetts bar.

At least five (5) years' experience as a manager, including supervision of legal and support staff, is required. Prior experience in a policy-making position which required data analysis is a plus.

Salary: \$125,285.00

To apply:

Applicants should submit their resume, statement of interest and, as a separate document, a description of significant challenges that exist to providing excellent representation to indigent clients in criminal cases.

Applications should be submitted by July 16, 2012 to:

Ralph J. Cinquegrana, Esq., Chair
Committee for Public Counsel Services
44 Bromfield Street
Boston, MA 02108

or by email (preferred) to dcc@publiccounsel.net or by fax to 617-988-8495.

For information on the Committee for Public Counsel Services, see www.mass.gov/cpcs.

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

The agency actively seeks to diversify its workforce.

Date of posting: June 12, 2012