

JOB VACANCY NOTICE

Posting Date: January 14th, 2022

Program Job Title: Chief Defender

Annual Salary: \$125,000-\$130,000

FLSA Status: Exempt

Location: Lubbock County, Texas

Deadline to submit application: February 1st, 2022

Resume and Cover Letter required for consideration



The Chief Defender is responsible for providing assistance to panel attorneys, guidance for 80+ local attorneys, oversight of CLE compliance, and measuring the quality of client representation. The office will represent more than 8k non-capital cases for persons who cannot afford counsel in Lubbock County. This is an opportunity to create a client-centered holistic approach to indigent defense.

Position Description: The Chief Defender (CD) shall be the program director, pursuant to Article 26.047(d), Code of Criminal Procedure for the Lubbock Private Defenders Office. The Chief Defender is responsible for providing case assistance to panel attorneys, guidance for attorney mentoring, oversight of CLE compliance and measuring the quality of client representation. Directly interfaces with the Executive Director of the Lubbock Private Defenders Office.

Minimum Requirements:

- A minimum of 12 years of experience in the practice of criminal law
- A license to practice law in the state of Texas or license eligibility in the State of Texas
- A Experience in the delivery of indigent defense services
- A Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to network and collaborate with others
- No disciplinary history by the Texas State Bar
- Must have tried a minimum of 25 jury trials to verdict as a criminal defense lawyer

Preferred Qualifications:

- Work experience in a public defender's office or as the managing partner of a law firm
- Experience supervising attorneys

Primary Responsibilities:

- Consult with, advise, and assist panel attorneys in the conduct and quality of representation in pending cases; foster an environment that encourages mentoring and defense strategies
- Consult with panel members regarding defense strategies
- Evaluate panel attorneys and advise the LPDO Executive Director concerning the qualifications, abilities, and performance of panel attorneys
- Work collaboratively with the Executive Director, investigate and respond to public inquires from clients and members of the Judiciary; evaluate inquiries and complaints as they relate to the quality of representation provided by panel attorneys
- Coordinate/plan in-house CLE and administer training exercises for panel attorneys
- Advise and counsel with LPDO Executive Director regarding the assignment of cases to panel attorneys, fitting the complexity and seriousness of cases to the skill levels of the assigned attorneys
- Attend meetings of LPDO, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Texas Indigent Defense Commission
- Maintain resource database for experts, investigators, motions/briefs, and immigration legal research; routinely observe and provide feedback to panel attorneys in court and client relations
- Primary resource to provide panel attorneys with legislative and case law updates
- Ensures panel attorneys are provided key updates on LPDO policies and procedures and local rules

Closing Date: February 16, 2022

Email resume and cover letter to: scavasos@lpdo.org