



## Employee Benefits

- Eligible for student loan forgiveness
- Retirement - New York State Public Employees Retirement System
- Vacation - 20 days, after five years increases to 25 days
- Holidays - 13 legal holidays
- Insurance - health, vision, and dental for individuals and families, with percent contribution
- Life Insurance - 3 times pay after established minimum length of employment, until 70 years of age
- Assistant Public Defender starting salary is \$73,979.
- Senior Assistant Public Defender starting salary is \$91,438.

## Dutchess County

offers a rare and compelling array of scenic, recreational, and geographic amenities, including historic sites, wineries, farm markets and a wide variety of art and music venues.

- Dutchess County is home to an estimated 300,000 residents.
- Approximately one hour north of New York City in the historic Hudson River Valley
- The business base is quite diverse, as agriculture and tourism are two major drivers of the local economy.

Learn more at:

[dutchessny.gov](http://dutchessny.gov) & [dutchesstourism.com](http://dutchesstourism.com)



## Dutchess County Office of the Public Defender

**Criminal Court Unit  
Family Court Unit  
Appeals/Parole Unit**

**Thomas N.N. Angell  
Public Defender**

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## Criminal Court Unit

This unit is currently comprised of 26 attorneys who represent indigent defendants accused of crimes throughout Dutchess County.

1. Our Criminal Unit approach toward defense is focused on a holistic method. We assist our clients in identifying the root causes for their involvement with the criminal justice system and utilize our resources to help address them.
2. Comprised of arraignment attorneys, assistant public defenders, and senior assistant public defenders, our criminal teams work together under the supervision of 4 bureau chiefs.
3. Attorneys in the Criminal Court Unit handle all types of criminal matters ranging from violations to violent felonies that arise out of the courts they are assigned.



## Family Court Unit

This unit is currently comprised of 9 attorneys who represent indigent individuals before Dutchess County Family Court.

1. The Family Court Unit provides legal representation for matters pertaining to family offenses, neglect, abuse, custody and child support.
2. While serving on the Family Court's Court Improvement Project Committee, our attorneys assist with efforts to expedite the reunification of children with their parents throughout the county's 20 towns and 2 small cities.
3. Committed to protecting the rights of parents as they navigate interactions with DC Child Protective Services, attorneys counsel clients to ensure they have knowledge of their rights during interactions, as well as before and after court interventions.
4. As with our Criminal Unit, the Family Court Unit prioritizes holistic defense and counsels on resolution of collateral issues as well.



## The Ideal Candidate

The Dutchess County Public Defender is seeking attorneys who have an interest in public law and the clients we serve. We are looking for attorneys that want to work with a multi-cultural and diverse socio-economic clientele. We have a need for attorneys that are bilingual in Spanish. Candidates that have a background in litigation clinics and trial advocacy skills with strong research and writing experience are ideal. An applicant should be comfortable working in a team environment and be able to develop strong working relationships with judges, clerks, district attorneys and other court personnel.

## The Position

Attorneys must be admitted to practice law in New York State and be in good standing. Attorneys are assigned a caseload of individuals charged with a variety of criminal charges. They represent those clients at arraignments, hearings, trial and appeal. They confer with social workers and investigators and prepare witnesses and clients for testimony in court. They routinely conduct legal research and prepare legal pleadings such as motions, answers, writs, and memoranda of law. In the course of their representation attorneys are expected to maintain accurate records and maintain client contact by conducting routine jail visits and responding to client inquiries by phone, email and text messaging.