

Criminal Court Unit

This unit is currently comprised of 13 attorneys who represent indigent defendants who are accused of crimes throughout the county.

1. Our office's approach towards criminal defense is focused on a holistic method. We identify the root causes of our clients involvement with the criminal justice system and utilize our resources to try and address the underlying problem.
2. The Criminal Court Unit is comprised of Arraignment attorneys, Assistant Public Defenders, and Senior Assistant Public Defenders who all work together in teams under the supervision of a Criminal Unit Bureau Chief.
3. Attorneys in the Criminal Court Unit handle all types of criminal cases ranging from violations to felonies that arise out of the



Family Court Unit

This unit is comprised of approximately 7 attorneys who represent indigent individuals.

1. We also provide legal representation in Family Court including, among other matters, family offense, neglect, abuse, custody and child support matters.
2. We serve on the Dutchess County Family Court, Court Improvement Project Committee. This committee continues to pursue efforts to expedite reunification with children and their parents in Dutchess County.
3. We are committed to protecting the rights of parents as they navigate interactions with Child Protective Services. We counsel clients, ensuring they have knowledge of their rights while interacting with Child Protective Services including, before and after court intervention.
4. Our office prioritizes holistic defense and counsels on resolution of collateral issues.



Created by: Alexander B. Rosen, Esq.



DUTCHESS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

Criminal Court Unit
Family Court Unit
Appeals/Parole Unit

Dutchess County Public Defender Office
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THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

- ◆ The Dutchess County Public Defender's office is seeking attorneys who have an interest in public law and compassion for 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. Applicants 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.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- ◆ Eligibility for student loan forgiveness.
- ◆ Retirement - New York State Public Employees System.
- ◆ Vacation - 20 days. After five years increases to 25 days.
- ◆ Holidays - 12 legal holidays.
- ◆ Insurance - health, vision, and dental for individuals and families, with contribution.
- ◆ Generous sick time.
- ◆ Life Insurance.
- ◆ Assistant Public Defender starting salary is \$66,030.
- ◆ Senior Assistant Public Defender starting salary is \$84,909.



DUTCHESS COUNTY

- ◆ Offers a rare and compelling array of scenic, recreational, and geographic options, including wineries, farmer's markets, and a wide variety of art and music festivals.
- ◆ Dutchess County is home to approximately 300,000 residents.
- ◆ Approximately one hour north of New York City in the Hudson River Valley.
- ◆ The business base is quite diverse, but agriculture and tourism are two major drivers of the local economy.
- ◆ Learn more about Dutchess County at: dutchessny.gov
dutchesstourism.com

