

Kankakee County Public Defender

The Twenty First Judicial Circuit Court is accepting applications for the position of Kankakee County Public Defender. This position shall become vacant upon the retirement of the current Public Defender on September 1, 2019.

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties of the Public Defender are established by statute, (55 ILCS 5/3-4006). The Kankakee County Public Defender's Office is appointed by the Court to represent indigent clients in felony, misdemeanor, traffic, juvenile court proceedings. The Office is also involved in representation of adults and juveniles in connection with the Kankakee County Problem-Solving Courts. The Public Defender assigns, directs, and evaluates the work of the staff attorneys in providing competent legal services to the public within the rules of law and professional responsibility. The Public Defender's responsibilities include: the appointment, training and supervision of staff attorneys and support personnel, office management, functions of human resources, establishment of office policies, oversight and preparation and justification of departmental budgets, and related work as required. The Public Defender must have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, court personnel, public officials especially County Board Members, the public, and members of the local bar associations.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants must be licensed to practice law in Illinois, be in good standing with the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and have at least five years' experience in providing criminal legal services including felony trial work and experience in other areas of criminal law. In addition to an excellent command of substantive criminal law, other qualifications should include proven effective administrative skills, knowledge of modern methods and practices of criminal law, interviewing and counseling techniques, ability to train and develop staff professionals in legal research and presentation methods, and the ability to anticipate and resolve various related problems as they arise. Knowledge of problem-solving courts' protocol and procedures is desirable.

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

The salary is set by statute at not less than 90% of the compensation of the Kankakee County State's Attorney. Kankakee County benefits package is included. This is a full-time position and the Public Defender cannot engage in the private practice of law.

TO APPLY: Email cover letter and resume to Adrienne Haley, ahaley@k3county.net, Administrative Assistant to the Chief Judge of the 21st Judicial Circuit.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 1, 2019