PARTNER OFFICE PROFILE

KNOX COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER’S COMMUNITY LAW OFFICE

KNOXVILLE, TN

WWW.PDKNOX.ORG  PDKNOXCLO  @PDKNOXCLO

# of Gideon’s Promise lawyers are in your office?

9

# of public defenders are in your office?

27

*Including elected public defender

What are some of popular attractions to visit in the city?

- Vibrant art & music
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Tennessee River
- University of Tennessee

What types of cases will the fellow(s) handle?

- Juvenile
- Appellate
- Social Services Dept.
- DUI
- Misdemeanors

* New attorneys begin in the misdemeanor and DUI units

Any formal community partnerships?

The CLO is home to after-school and summer programs for elementary and middle school students. The CLO also hosts the following: expungement clinic, homeless legal initiative, veterans clinic, debt relief clinic.

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Different units in your public defender office? anything unique?
Misdemeanor, DUI, Felony, Juvenile, and Appellate. We have a robust Social Services Department. Attorneys in each unit practice collaboratively with social workers and investigators. Generally, new attorneys begin in the Misdemeanor and DUI units, before transferring to the Felony unit. Applicants with a specific interest in juvenile defense should note that on the application.

Are certain resources available to the staff attorneys?
Yes, Knox County judges approve motions for expert funding. The CLO employs 5 full-time investigators.

Is there anything that distinguishes the clients in your jurisdiction?
The opiate epidemic has hit Knox County/East Tennessee especially hard. Our clients are regularly overdosing and occasionally dying.

What are some popular attractions for attorneys to visit while in your city? Cont.
We would be happy to take any interested student on a tour of the office as well as Knoxville. Knoxville is home to the University of Tennessee, a vibrant art and music scene, a growing number of chef-owned restaurants, and miles and miles of hiking and biking trails and greenways. Knoxville sits on the Tennessee River, which provides opportunities for kayaking, fishing, paddle-boarding, and boating. We are nestled next to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Big South Fork. Knoxville also has a reasonable cost of living, something appealing to many public defenders!