ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE
ALBANY, NEW YORK

# OF GIDEON’S PROMISE LAWYERS IN YOUR OFFICE?
3

# OF PUBLIC DEFENDERS IN YOUR OFFICE?
30

*Full time staff attorneys

### TYPES OF CASES THE FELLOW(S) WILL HANDLE?
Fellows in our office will begin handling misdemeanors. They will also have the opportunity to handle some aspects of felony cases (arraignments, preliminary hearings) and co-counsel serious felony cases. They may also progress to handling some low level felony cases.

### IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT YOUR OFFICE
New York State and the County of Albany are both highly committed to public defense reform. For detailed information about the ongoing efforts to effect change throughout New York State, review the website of the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Service: www.ils.ny.gov. Equally important, the reforms being instituted at the State level require a collaborative partnership with each individual county. Albany County has proven itself to be a leader in this effort and fully supports the mission and goals of ILS and the Albany County Public Defender Office. Indeed, without this complete support from Albany County, reform would not be possible.

### LIFE IN ALBANY
The Capital District in upstate New York, (Albany, Troy, Saratoga, and Schenectady) is an excellent place to work and live. The cost of living in this area is extremely reasonable, especially when compared to large cities. The region has excellent public school systems and is a great place to raise a family. In terms of entertainment, Albany boasts a variety of great restaurants, concert and arts venues, and nightlife options. Albany is also within a three hour drive to Montreal, Boston, Providence, and New York City. And for those who love the outdoors, Albany is a one hour drive from the Adirondack, Catskill, and Berkshire mountains. There are also numerous ways to become involved in the community on a political, religious, educational, athletic, and/or social basis.
“Greetings and thank you for taking some time to consider the Albany County Public Defender Office as a potential fellowship location. I am particularly enthusiastic about our office becoming a partner with Gideon’s Promise because of its true commitment to public defense reform and because it is personally rewarding for me to reconnect with a fellow Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia alumnus on a level that will surely have such a direct, positive impact on the lives of our clients. As the information I am providing below reveals, for a variety of reasons, I am confident that the Albany County Public Defender Office is on the path to becoming a model public defense program and is an office that you should seriously consider if your goal is to help build a program that is both extremely well-resourced and motivated to effect much needed public defense reform in the Capital of New York State. There is still much work to be done and it is our hope that dynamic and committed attorneys will continue to join the office and help us reach our potential.”

Matthew Alpern
Chief Assistant Public Defender
Albany County Public Defender's Office

MICHAEL A. MITCHELL
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER,
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