



Gideon's Promise – LSPP Short Essay Questions **(Answers should be no more than 500 words.)**

1. Why do you want to be a public defender? Describe a specific experience in your life that influenced your desire to become a public defender.
2. Describe a personal or professional challenge that you've faced in the past and how you overcame that challenge.
3. On top of the usual challenges facing public defenders in better resourced systems, our partner offices are working to raise the standard of representation in particularly resource-challenged environments. Please explain why becoming a public defender in such a challenging environment is appealing to you.
4. Describe any experiences that have prepared you to work with the communities you will serve as a public defender. These may include personal experiences, volunteer work, clinical experience, coursework, relationships with mentors, etc. Discuss what skills you possess that will help you in your career as a public defender.
5. Why do you want to join the Gideon's Promise community? What do you most value about being a part of the movement to reform indigent defense, and what do you hope to achieve by being a part of the Gideon's Promise community?
6. Where do you see yourself professionally in ten years?
7. Why do you believe you are an ideal candidate for the Law School Partnership Program?