



PARTNER OFFICE PROFILE

LUZERNE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

WILKES-BARRE, PA



WWW.LUZERNECOUNTY.ORG/311/PUBLIC-DEFENDER

of Gideon's Promise lawyers are in your office?

5-7

Is there anything that distinguishes the clients in your jurisdiction?

Large spanish speaking clientele in the area.

What are the different units in your public defender office?

- Juvenile
- Mental Health
- Social Workers
- Investigators
- State Parole

Do you have to have any specific skills that are required in your office?

Spanish speaking would be great.

Are resources, such as availability of experts and investigative support, accessible to staff attorneys?

We have five staff investigators and a fairly decent budget for experts.

What makes practicing in your jurisdiction uniquely challenging?

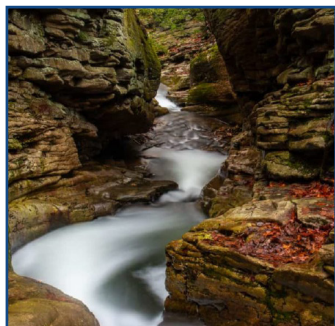
Very political minded DA, large opioid, judges only interested in moving cases, extremely antiquated jail, and lack of diverse population.

Popular attractions for attorneys to visit while in your city:

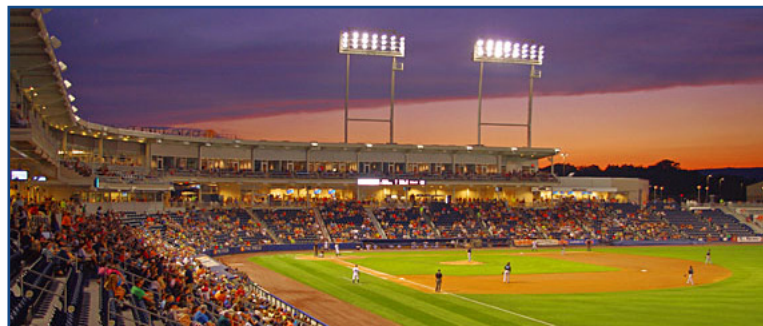
We have AAA New York Yankees baseball, AAA Pittsburgh Penguins Ice Hockey, as a rural area lots of state parks, streams, rivers for hiking, outdoor activities. Also, several large music venues attracting popular acts such as, Elton John, Simon and Garfunkel, Sting Crosby Stills, Jackson Brown, etc. we are also within two hours of Philadelphia, New York City, and three hours for the Jersey Shore and Washington, D.C.

Does your public defender office have any formal community partnerships or special projects? If so, please describe the partnership, program, or project.

We have a contractual/funding relationship with a bicounty MHDS service provider whereby we provide services to MH persons in need, both legal and social work. We also have a relationship with northeast counseling, which provides outpatient therapy and to a degree some reentry services. We also have a relationship with two local universities to provide field placement supervision for BS and MS students seeking degrees in social work. We also have a present relationship with Vera Institute of Justice to do data collection and analysis to attempt to reduce the prison population.



Seven Tubs
Recreation Area



PNC Field

101 MARIETTA ST. NW, SUITE 250 ATLANTA, GA 30303



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