

PARTNER OFFICE PROFILE

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

FRANKFORT, KY

ONLINE MEDIA:

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of public defenders in your office?

The Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy ("DPA") has 36 trial offices covering all 120 counties of Kentucky, with a total defender staff of over 350 attorneys.

of Gideon's Promise lawyers in your office?

DPA currently has 12 attorneys who have completed or are in the Gideon's Promise program, in addition to several leaders who have attended leadership training by Gideon's Promise.

What are some popular attractions to visit in the state?

Kentucky is a beautiful state that spans from the majestic Appalachian Mountains to the scenic lakes of southern Kentucky to the farmlands of Western Kentucky to the urban areas of Louisville, Lexington, and Covington (Cincinnati). Attractions include the Kentucky Bourbon Trail, Churchill Downs, Mammoth Cave National Park, Cumberland Falls, the Muhammad Ali Center, and Kentucky's 44 State Parks.

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

An LSPP fellow would work as full-time public defender in one of DPA's trial offices. From the start, the fellow would represent adult clients charged with misdemeanors and perhaps clients in juvenile court. After gaining courtroom experience and receiving Kentucky's nationally recognized training, the fellow will be assigned more serious cases.

Important facts about your office:

Kentucky has a unified statewide public defender system that is an agency of state government. Each trial office has staffing that includes attorneys, investigators, alternative sentencing workers, and administrative staff. An LSPP Fellow who works for DPA will be a full-time state employee with complete benefits (health insurance, leave time, comp time, retirement plan, HR resources) and will receive the standard starting salary for DPA attorneys (which is likely to be higher than the law school's contribution through the LSPP). Though applicants through the LSPP are applying to the statewide system, DPA and a fellowship candidate will work together to decide which specific trial office would meet the needs and goals of the candidate and the agency.



KENTUCKY BOURBON TRAIL



RED RIVER GORGE & NATURAL BRIDGE STATE PARK



CHURCHILL DOWNS

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









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WORDS FROM THE CHIEF:

"Over the past 50 years, the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy has become a model statewide public defender system. Our vision is that every one of the clients we serve in more than 140,000 cases each year will be provided professional and excellent representation delivered with empathy, respect and passion. Defenders are trained through our nationally recognized education program and supported through our network of more than 40 offices, including trial, appellate, and post-conviction branches. When I started 26 years ago as a public defender, I wanted to make a difference in people's lives. Thousands of clients later, I still believe a caring and dedicated defender provides hope and positive results for those facing the power of the government. At DPA, we are looking for the next generation of lawyers willing to fight to give clients a better tomorrow."

DAMON PRESTON

PUBLIC ADVOCATE, KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY



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





