

**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE  
711 South Capitol Way, Suite 106,  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0957**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
RFQ- 18003  
OF ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION FOR INDIGENT PARENTS  
IN DEPENDENCY AND TERMINATION CASES**

The Washington State Office of Public Defense (OPD) Parents Representation Program (PRP) currently provides state funded attorney representation and case support services to indigent parents, custodians and legal guardians involved in child dependency and termination of parental rights proceedings in 31 of the 39 Washington counties. The Legislature has authorized OPD to complete expansion into Pierce County and expand services into the following counties: Lincoln, Okanogan and San Juan. OPD is requesting applications for attorney services in the following counties:

Lincoln: Multiple part time contracts beginning September 1, 2017.

Okanogan: Multiple part time contracts beginning September 1, 2017.

Pierce: Multiple part time to full time contracts beginning September 1, 2017.

San Juan: Multiple part time contracts beginning October 1, 2017.

All PRP Counties: Although OPD does not anticipate any immediate openings, OPD is willing to accept applications for all counties in order to identify interested parties if openings become available in the future. A full list of PRP counties may be found at <http://www.opd.wa.gov/index.php/program/parents-representation>.

The contract caseload for a full time attorney is approximately 80 cases with an approximate annual compensation of \$107,500-128,798. Part time attorney position compensation is pro-rated based on a percentage of a full time caseload. Compensation includes all overhead such as support staff, rent, and other costs of doing business. Compensation is dependent on experience. If interested, follow the application procedures below.

#### **Qualifications**

The following qualifications are required:

- Licensed member of good standing with the Washington State Bar.
- Experience representing a party in a dependency or termination case (highly preferred) or comparable experience.
- History of providing excellent representation of clients.
- Able to communicate well with indigent clients; be familiar with RCW 13.34 and court rules pertaining to dependency and termination cases.
- Able to meet Washington State Supreme Court Standards for Indigent Defense

#### **Application Procedure**

Applications for Pierce County are due by August 14<sup>th</sup>. Applications for San Juan are due by September 6<sup>th</sup>. All other applications are due by August 10<sup>th</sup>. To apply, email a letter of interest identifying your qualifications, counties in which you are interested, caseload preference, a resume, and three references. Letters of interest should also describe applicant's current contracts for public defense or other representation as well as existing caseload, specifying the number of your current dependency and termination cases, if any.

**Email Materials to:** Mike Tobias, Program Assistant at: [Mike.Tobias@opd.wa.gov](mailto:Mike.Tobias@opd.wa.gov)

Please address any questions to Mike Tobias at the above email address.

OPD reserves the right to amend this Request for Qualifications and reserves the right to refrain from contracting with any and all applicants. This Request for Qualifications does not obligate the state of Washington or OPD to contract for the services specified here.