



## Washington State Office of Public Defense

July 12, 2022

Open Until Filled

### **Exempt Recruitment**

#### **Blake Triage Data Analyst**

**\$80,000 to \$100,000 annually, depending on qualifications**

*Full-time data analyst position to assist Blake “triage” efforts, including reviewing and organizing conviction history data from multiple sources to collaboratively determine remaining Blake relief to be afforded. This is a project position and is dependent on continued project funding. Funding is currently available through June, 2023. Full state benefits are included with this position.*

Washington State Office of Public Defense

Olympia, Washington

[www.opd.wa.gov](http://www.opd.wa.gov)

## **We Want You to Join Our Passionate Public Defense Team!**

### **About the Washington State Office of Public Defense (OPD)**

We are an independent judicial branch agency mandated to implement the constitutional and statutory guarantees of counsel and to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of indigent defense services funded by the state.

**Mission:** Upholding the rights of all people who are facing the loss of liberty or family by providing statewide leadership, administration, and support to the multidisciplinary public defense profession.

**Vision:** Public defense clients, everywhere in the state, receive truly equitable and client-centered representation from fully supported professionals.

**Values:** Justice ■ Service ■ Equity ■ Excellence

We administer a variety of programs, including systemic improvement programs and programs providing direct representation. To learn about OPD’s programs click [here](#). We are dedicated to excellence in public law and indigent defense, and we seek talented candidates who share this commitment to client-centered service. We value employees who bring diverse backgrounds in education, employment, community activities, and life experiences to enhance our office.

### **The Trial Level Program**

Our Trial Level Program is comprised of three teams. We carry out a variety of projects to assist local governments in fulfilling their public defense responsibilities, and to support public defense and assigned counsel attorneys in delivering client-centered advocacy. **The Blake Defense Team** contracts with counties and individual attorneys to ensure that people have access to counsel to seek resentencing orders and vacate convictions consistent with the *State v. Blake* decision, and collaborates with state and local organizations for implementation of *Blake* defense work. The new

Triage component (see more below) expands this team's efforts. **The Youth Access to Counsel Team** contracts with attorneys to provide on-demand legal consultation for youth making decisions on their constitutional rights when interacting with law enforcement. **The Public Defense Improvement Team** distributes grant funds to counties and cities, administers continuing legal education programs, and provides technical assistance to city and county governments. Each Trial Level team includes a mixture of attorneys and support staff. In addition to fulfilling contract and grant functions, members work with stakeholders on policy, training, and resource development within their respective subject matter areas.

### **Background on *Blake* Defense**

In *State v. Blake*, 197 Wn.2d 170 (2021) the Washington State Supreme Court ruled that Washington's simple drug possession law was unconstitutional and void. Consequently, thousands of simple drug possession convictions needed to be vacated, including convictions of currently incarcerated people. Public defenders across the state are working to deliver *Blake* relief to individuals under DOC control and/or individuals who have already served their sentences. One-year post-*Blake*, a pressing need remains in many counties for a review of the criminal history of individuals serving sentences on convictions from those counties to determine which individuals should be served first, depending on how significant a difference *Blake* will make in their sentence. Additionally, in many counties a vacation of a simple possession conviction requires an attorney to review priority level for those individuals as well, i.e. a review of the individual's criminal history to determine whether the individual's case requires i) the services of a criminal defense attorney, ii) the services of a civil attorney, or iii) is susceptible to a pro se motion for vacation.

### **The Role of the Newly Funded *Blake* Triage Team**

The *Blake* Triage Team will principally be concerned with prioritizing *Blake* relief for individuals under Dept. of Corrections (DOC) supervision, as well as reviewing and tracking statewide progress on *Blake* relief. The Team will consist of a Managing Attorney, Paralegal, and Data Analyst, as well as contract attorneys.

### **The Data Analyst Position**

As Data Analyst you will collaborate with your fellow Triage Team members to improve the management and flow of *Blake*-relief statewide. The Data Analyst position will:

- Consolidate and organize data from multiple sources to provide a holistic view of relief needed for *Blake*-affected individuals.
- Assist in identifying additional sources of data and craft requests for data from other stakeholders.
- Organize county-specific data sets to provide to stakeholders statewide.
- Collaborate with team members to identify previously addressed *Blake* cases that may need further relief.
- Collaborate with team members to develop a process for tracking quantitative data on statewide *Blake* relief.
- Develop tools for collecting and accessing qualitative data points on *Blake*-affected individuals.
- Collaborate with team members to develop regular reports on progress and other data points.

Questions about this position are welcome, and should be directed to the Lead Managing Attorney, [Katrin.Johnson@opd.wa.gov](mailto:Katrin.Johnson@opd.wa.gov) or 360-586-3164 ext. 108.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree or international equivalent in science, social science, political science, economics, math, criminal justice, or related field, plus 5 years of experience in data research (quantitative and qualitative) OR Master's Degree in social science, political science, economics, criminal justice, or related field, plus 3 years of experience in data research (quantitative and qualitative).

- Ability to think creatively and conceptually, synthesize data, and draw conclusions from research and convey it to a variety of audiences.
- Well-developed skills in collecting and analyzing data, making and linking data sets, and adapting to and implementing new software.
- Proficient in Excel, to extract, manipulate, and analyze data.
- Familiarity with statistical and data analysis software.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications.
- Superior written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to multitask, and to work both independently and collaboratively with a team.

### **Desired Qualifications**

- Experience working in a public policy setting, particularly experience in using data analysis to help develop public policy.
- Experience working in a social-justice focused setting.
- Experience with surveys, focus groups, or randomized controlled trials.
- Experience with data visualization.
- Knowledge, skills, and experience in social media or multi-media
- Experience collaborating with diverse populations in cross cultural-settings.

### **General Responsibilities**

- Exercise mature judgment in potentially sensitive, high-stress situations.
- Participate in and foster a collaborative working environment at OPD, statewide stakeholder groups, and in demographically diverse local court systems.
- Conduct all activities with the highest degree of professionalism in furtherance of OPD's Mission, Vision and Values.

### **Compensation**

\$80,000 – \$100,000 annually, depending on qualifications

Compensation depending on qualifications. Washington State employees are offered a comprehensive benefits package that includes: paid holidays, vacation and sick leave, retirement and health, dental and life insurance coverage for self and family. There are also options for deferred compensation and pre-tax flexible spending accounts. This is a project-based position, and funding for the Blake Triage Team members is currently available through June 30, 2023.

### **Application Process**

Interested candidates should *submit the following by email to [Nicole.Dodge@opd.wa.gov](mailto:Nicole.Dodge@opd.wa.gov)*:

- Letter of interest.
- Current résumé and a list of at least three professional or lived experience references.
- [Application for State Jobs](#) (Word file) (Rev. 6/4/19)

### **COVID-19**

With regard to COVID-19, OPD will follow the guidance of federal and state restrictions in considering any future at home or in office work requirements and will strive to maintain a policy that is safe for the office and individual employees. Currently, people working in the office must be vaccinated or have an accommodation approved by the Director.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

We vigorously pursue diversity in the work force. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons over 40 year of age, LGBTQIA+, persons with disabilities, formerly incarcerated, prior child welfare involvement,

and military veterans are encouraged to apply. Pursuing diversity, equity and inclusion means that as an agency, and as individuals, we are committed to ensuring that all employees enjoy a respectful, safe, and supportive working environment.

**Teleworking**

Our offices are in Olympia, Washington. We have teleworking options available by policy, and will be considered on an individual basis depending on the needs of the position and the availability of adequate equipment.