



Washington Defender Association
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Christie Hedman, *Executive Director*
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WDA Immigration Project Resource Attorney Position Available

THE WASHINGTON DEFENDER ASSOCIATION

Located in Seattle, Washington, the Washington Defender Association (WDA) is a nonprofit membership association comprised of public defender agencies, indigent defenders, and those who are committed to seeking improvements in indigent defense services. WDA's work focuses on providing training, resources and individual case assistance to public defenders throughout the state of Washington to ensure effective assistance of counsel and the highest quality of representation to their clients. WDA also engages in state and national advocacy to promote reform within the criminal and civil justice systems and defend the rights of accused persons.

In 1999, WDA established the [WDA Immigration Project](#) (WDAIP). WDAIP's work focuses specifically on addressing the immigration consequences facing noncitizen defendants. WDAIP strives to make *Padilla v. Kentucky's* guarantee of effective assistance a reality for noncitizen defendants through education resources, individual case assistance, and state and national policy advocacy. WDAIP is staffed by Senior Directing Attorney, Ann Benson, and Immigration Specialist, Jonathan Moore.

For more information on WDA and WDAIP please see www.defensenet.org.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: Immigration Resource Attorney

WDA seeks a full-time immigration resource attorney to join WDAIP staff. The position is based in WDA's Seattle office and requires some travel, primarily throughout Washington State. Job responsibilities include:

- **Technical Assistance** - Providing consultation and technical assistance to defense counsel regarding the immigration consequences of criminal charges, plea offers & prior convictions.
- **Resource Development** – Developing criminal-immigration resources, both written and for use online, to assist public defense attorneys representing noncitizen clients.
- **Training** – Conducting regular in-person and webinar trainings to defenders (and other legal system actors) on relevant criminal-immigration issues.
- **Advocacy** – Participating in WDAIP's on-going efforts to reform and advance current system-wide policies and practices relevant to noncitizen defendants.

REQUIREMENTS AND ABILITIES:

- Law degree from an accredited law school and member in good standing of a state bar association, with an expectation of membership in the Washington State Bar Association within a reasonable period of time.
- Advocacy, legal representation, or clinical experience in immigration removal defense or criminal law required with a strong preference for at least 2 years' experience in immigration or 3 years criminal law experience; experience working with indigent clients is preferred; post-conviction experience desirable; demonstrated commitment to social justice.
- Capacity to be both self-directed and work in a collaborative, energetic work environment, take leadership on priority issues, engage in strategic thinking and collaborative partnership development to further WDAIP goals.
- Excellent analytical, writing and communication abilities.
- Willingness to live in and/or relocate to Seattle.

COMPENSATION: Salary is based on experience, qualifications and the parameters of the WDA compensation scale.

APPLICATION DATE: Open until filled.

SEND RESUME, COVER LETTER, AND SHORT WRITING SAMPLE TO: Scott Shoemaker, Washington Defender Association, 110 Prefontaine Pl. S., Suite 610, Seattle, WA 98104 or wda@defensenet.org.