

Personnel and Civil Service

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NOTICE OF VACANCY PUBLIC DEFENDER

Date of Issue: 10/03/2025. The Public Defender shall represent, without charge or by order of the Court with the consent of the defendant, each indigent defendant who is charged with a crime as defined by Section 722(a) of the County Law. In addition, the Public Defender shall represent, without charge, in a proceeding in family court or surrogate's court in Tioga County, any person entitled to counsel pursuant to section two hundred sixty-two and section eleven hundred twenty of the family court act and section four hundred seven of the surrogate's court procedure act, or any person entitled to counsel pursuant to article six-C of the correction law, who is financially unable to obtain counsel. The work involves responsibility for directing the investigation, preparation and counsel of such person at every stage of the proceedings and shall initiate such proceedings as are necessary to protect the rights of such person and may prosecute any appeals if the facts and circumstances warrant such. In addition, the Public Defender may assign professional, technical and clerical personnel in the investigation, preparation, conduct and appeal in any court proceedings involving indigent persons. The work is performed under guidelines provided by law. Does related work as required.

The title of Public Defender is classified as Exempt under Tioga County Civil Service Rules. The incumbent serves at the pleasure of the Tioga County Legislature. *Criminal background checks will be conducted upon a conditional offer of employment.

Status: Permanent Probationary – **Starting January 2026**
Work Hours: Full time, days; 35 hours/week
Salary: \$121,694 - \$131,694 (2026 Management/Confidential); excellent benefit package available: health, dental and vision insurance, paid leave time, NYS Retirement System, Deferred Compensation Plan
Location: Tioga County Public Defender's Office

Minimum Qualifications: Must be duly licensed to practice law in the State of New York.

Pursuant to County Law § 716, public defender and deputies are designated as an appointive officer" and therefore falls under Public Officers Law §3.

Apply Online: <https://tiogacountyny.com/departments/personnel-civil-service/>

Apply by: Applications accepted until the position has been filled.

Tioga County applications are available on our website. Resumes may be submitted but MUST accompany an application. Applicants MUST clearly describe education and/or work and volunteer experience to explain how they meet the minimum qualifications for the position. Omissions or vagueness will not be interpreted in an applicant's favor.

*Criminal background checks will be conducted upon a conditional offer of employment. Depending upon the position sought, conviction of a felony, misdemeanor or other offense may bar appointment. At the discretion of the appointing authority, additional screenings may include but will not be limited to: fingerprinting, psychological, and or drug testing. If requested, a candidate will be required to authorize access to educational, employment, financial, or other records.