



JUVENILE-ADULT TRANSFER ATTORNEY

Juvenile Regional Services New Orleans, LA

Juvenile Regional Services (JRS), the juvenile public defender in New Orleans, Louisiana, is accepting applications for the position of Transfer Attorney. The Transfer Attorney will be an experienced trial lawyer, responsible for direct representation – in both juvenile court and criminal court – of children whom the state seeks to try as adults.

Juvenile Regional Services (JRS) exists to provide youth with quality legal representation in Louisiana's juvenile justice system. Our vision is to create a juvenile justice system built upon the zealous defense of youth while building upon the strengths of young people, families and communities in order to instill hope and to ensure children are given the greatest opportunities to grow and thrive.

Our mission is to support juvenile indigent defense systems such that indigent juveniles are provided quality effective legal representation; to provide for the alleviation of unconstitutional conditions of confinement for juveniles; and, to assist in the development and expansion of rehabilitation efforts and alternative programs for juveniles.

Duties:

The Transfer Attorney will be responsible for direct representation of all JRS clients targeted by the prosecutor for transfer to adult court, and for coordinating JRS' efforts to address the systemic issues surrounding juvenile transfer in New Orleans and Louisiana.

The Transfer Attorney's primary responsibility will be the direct representation of children and youth targeted by the district attorney for transfer to criminal court for prosecution as adults. The Transfer Attorney will be assigned to represent these children immediately after arrest in juvenile court, and will lead a defense team in representing clients continuously from that point, in both juvenile and criminal courts, until the case's completion.

To address systemic issues related to transfer, as a secondary area of responsibility, the Transfer Attorney will spearhead a pilot project, funded by the Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute, designed to create a model of effective representation for these children. The Transfer Attorney

will craft protocols for the effective representation of youth targeted for transfer; work with other defender offices who seek to specialize in juvenile transfer; provide litigation support and serve as a consulting resource for other attorneys representing transferred youth; and engage in systemic and appellate litigation, where appropriate.

The Transfer Attorney will report directly to the Executive Director of Juvenile Regional Services.

Qualifications:

Minimum Qualifications:

Admission, or eligibility for admission, to the Louisiana Bar; significant defense experience, including experience representing clients in complex felony cases; commitment to the zealous defense of indigent children; demonstrated skill and experience in written and oral advocacy; demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team setting.

Preferred Qualifications:

Experience in juvenile defense; experience working with disadvantaged clients; experience and training with the intersection of mental health issues and the justice system.

Applications from minority candidates are strongly encouraged. JRS is an equal-opportunity employer.

Salary:

This is a full-time position, with full benefits. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Application Instructions:

Applicants should submit a cover letter; a resume; a legal writing sample; and references. The position will remain open until filled, and applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Please direct inquiries and application materials to:

Joshua Perry
Associate Director
Juvenile Regional Services
1820 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 205
New Orleans, LA 70130
jperry@jrsla.org
Phone: (504) 212-3209
Fax: (504) 267-4789