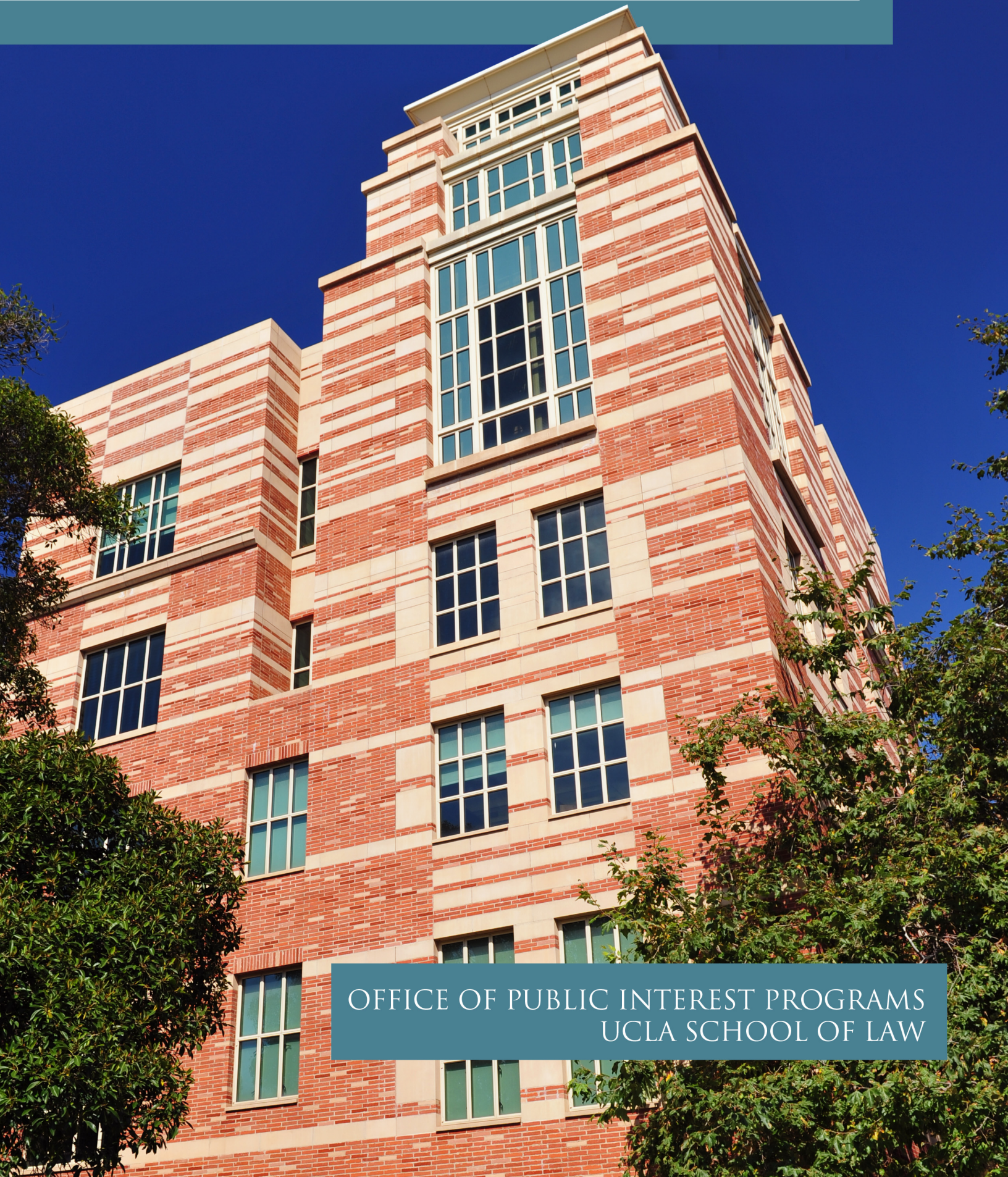


# Guide to California Public Defender Offices



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEREST PROGRAMS  
UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Acknowledgements	1
About UCLA School of Law	1
About the Office of Public Interest Programs	1
Introduction	2
Northern California	4
Northern California Richard A. Ciummo & Associates Offices	14
Central California	16
Southern California	19

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This *Guide to California Public Defender Offices* builds on two previous guides created by other California law schools. We thank Golden Gate University School of Law for publishing the first guide to California public defender offices in 2008, and University of California Davis School of Law for updating the guide in 2011.

## ABOUT UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

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UCLA School of Law, founded in 1949, is the youngest major law school in the nation and has established a tradition of innovation in its approach to teaching, research, and scholarship. With a rigorous criminal justice curriculum, the school is a preeminent training ground for students committed to careers in public defense.

## ABOUT THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEREST PROGRAMS

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UCLA School of Law has a proud tradition of public service. Its Office of Public Interest Programs strives to enhance the School of Law's commitment to public service by offering an array of services to students and alumni. The Office's principal goal is to encourage students and alumni to embrace a career that incorporates an ongoing commitment to public service.

## INTRODUCTION

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The state of California has long been a leader in defending the rights of people accused of crimes. California is the home of the nation's first public defender office. Established in 1914 in the county of Los Angeles, this pioneering office led the way for the eventual expansion of public defender services around the country. In 1921, the California legislature extended the right to appointed counsel to all state courts. In 1963, the United States Supreme Court unanimously held that criminal defendants have a constitutional right to counsel in the landmark case of *Gideon v. Wainwright*.

The purpose of this *Guide to California Public Defender Offices* is to provide law students and recent graduates interested in careers in criminal defense in California with contact and other relevant information for every county public defender office and office to which public defender services are contracted in the state. The information contained in this Guide was obtained by the authors through interviews with attorneys and student externs at these public defender offices.



# CALIFORNIA'S 58 COUNTIES

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



The Northern California section of this Guide includes information about public defender offices and offices to which public defender services are contracted in 42 of the 58 counties in the state.



## ALAMEDA COUNTY

1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612-4305  
Ph: (510) 272-6600; Fax: (510) 272-6610  
<http://www.acgov.org/defender>

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes (must be certified)

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes. All law clerks must be eligible for certification. Tasks include conducting client interviews, litigating motions, and conducting evidentiary hearings under attorney supervision.

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants are encouraged to apply for a paid Post-Bar Legal Assistant position with the office.

**County Information:** Alameda County is located in the East Bay region of the San Francisco Bay Area. It has a population of more than 1.5 million people, making it the 7th largest county in the state. Its two most notable cities are Oakland and Berkeley.



## ALPINE COUNTY

Superior Court of Alpine County  
14777 CA-89 P.O. Box 518, Markleeville, CA 96120  
Ph: (530) 694-2113; Fax: (530) 694-2119  
<http://www.alpinecountycalifornia.gov>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Independent contractors provide Public Defender services for Alpine County. Interested applicants should contact the Superior Court of Alpine to inquire about summer and employment opportunities.

**County Information:** Alpine County is located between Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park. It is the smallest county in California with a population of just under 1,500.



## BUTTE COUNTY

[www.buttecounty.net](http://www.buttecounty.net)

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Butte County consists of several contracted private firms and attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website.

**County Information:** Butte County is located north of Sacramento. It has a population of just under 250,000. Chico is its most notable city.



## COLUSA COUNTY

<http://www.colusa.courts.ca.gov/>

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Colusa County consists of a few contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website.

**County Information:** Colusa County is located northwest of Sacramento. It has a population of just over 20,000.



## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

800 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA 94553

Ph: (925) 335-8000; Fax: (925) 335-8010

<http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/1555/Public-Defender>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes. Certified students may have the opportunity to argue motions in court under attorney supervision.

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants should apply to the Graduate Law Clerk Program, which is a year-long, paid research and writing position.

**County Information:** Contra Costa County is north of Alameda County in the San Francisco Bay Area. It has a population of just over a million.



## DEL NORTE COUNTY

<http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/>

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Del Norte County consists of several contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website.

**County Information:** Del Norte County is one of the most northern California counties with its northern border on the California/Oregon state line. It has a population of a little less than 30,000.



## EL DORADO COUNTY

<https://www.edcgov.us/Public-Defender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**County Information:** El Dorado County is located just east of Sacramento. It has a population of about 200,000. Its most notable cities are South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado Hills.



## GLENN COUNTY

<http://www.colusa.courts.ca.gov/>

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Glenn County consists of a few contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website.

**County Information:** Glenn County has a population of just under 30,000.



## HUMBOLDT COUNTY

1001 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Ph: (707) 445-7634; Fax: (707) 445-7320

<http://co.humboldt.ca.us/pubdefnd/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**County Information:** Humboldt County is along California's northernmost coastline. It has a population of just under 150,000.



## LAKE COUNTY

Ph: (707) 245-4727

Email: [cartercarter@law@gmail.com](mailto:cartercarter@law@gmail.com)

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Lake County consists of a few contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should call or email Angela Carter.

**County Information:** Lake County is located in the northern central portion of California. It has a population of just under 65,000.



## LASSEN COUNTY

220 S. Lassen Street, Suite 1, Susanville, CA 96130

Ph: (530) 251-8312; Fax: (530) 251-2671

[http://old.lassencounty.org/govt/dept/pub\\_def/PublicDefender.asp](http://old.lassencounty.org/govt/dept/pub_def/PublicDefender.asp)

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**County Information:** Lassen County is along California's northern border with Nevada. It has a population of just under 40,000. The county has only one incorporated city, Susanville, which is both the county seat and the location of the public defender office.



## MARIN COUNTY

3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 139, San Rafael, CA 94903

Ph: (415) 473-6321; Fax: (415) 473-6898

<http://www.marincounty.org/depts/pd>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** The office encourages students to volunteer in order to be aware of opportunities within the office as they arise.

**County Information:** Marin County is located in the northern portion of the San Francisco Bay. It has a population of slightly over 250,000.





## MARIPOSA COUNTY

County Personnel  
P.O. Box 867, Mariposa, CA 95338  
Ph: (209) 966-3661; Fax: (209) 966-4884  
<http://www.mariposacounty.org/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Mariposa County utilizes a court-appointed system. Interested students should contact the county's Personnel Department to inquire about the possibility of volunteering with a panel attorney.

**County Information:** Mariposa County is located just north of Fresno, and its eastern half is part of Yosemite National Park. It has a population of about 18,000.



## MENDOCINO COUNTY

199 South School Street, Ukiah, CA 94582  
Ph: (707) 463-5433  
<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/pubdef/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Mendocino County hires to replace attorneys who leave, but the office considers employment opportunities to be "few and far between."

**County Information:** Mendocino County is located along the Northern California coast. It has a population of just under 90,000.



## MERCED COUNTY

2150 M Street, Merced, CA 95340  
Ph: (209) 385-7692; Fax: (209) 725-8873  
<http://www.co.merced.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=81>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Merced County hires when its budget permits.

**County Information:** Merced County is located north of Fresno in California's Central Valley. It has a population of roughly 250,000. The City of Merced, where the office is located, has a population of over 90,000.



## MONO COUNTY

308 W. Line Street, Suite C, P.O. Box 1176, Bishop, CA 93515  
Ph: (760) 873-4760; Fax: (760) 873-4756

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Mono County contracts out its public defense work. Interested applicants should contact Attorney David Hammon.

**County Information:** Mono County is located between Yosemite National Park and Nevada. It has a population of about 15,000. Its only incorporated city is Mammoth Lake.



## NAPA COUNTY

1127 First Street, Suite 265, Napa, CA 94559  
Ph: (707) 253-4442; Fax: (707) 253-4407  
<http://www.countyofnapa.org/PublicDefender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants should volunteer after taking the Bar to get priority when the office hires replacements.

**County Information:** Napa County is located northeast of San Francisco. It has a population of about 140,000.



## NEVADA COUNTY

224 Main Street, Nevada City, CA 95959  
Ph: (530) 265-1400; Fax: (530) 478-5626  
<http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/publicdefender/Pages/Home.aspx>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Nevada County tends to hire attorneys with prior experience. The County recently established a public defender office after previously contracting out public defender services.

**County Information:** Nevada County is located in the Sierra Nevada of California. It has a population of roughly 100,000.



## PLUMAS COUNTY

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Butte County consists of several contracted private firms and attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website

**County Information:** Plumas County has a population of about 20,000. The City of Portola is the only incorporated city.



## SACRAMENTO COUNTY

700 H Street, Suite 270, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Ph: (916) 874-6411; Fax: (916) 874-8707  
<http://www.publicdefender.saccounty.net/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Law students or graduates interested in a clinical or post-bar position should contact the Intern Supervisor at (916) 874-5593.

**County Information:** Sacramento is the state capitol. The county is located 88 miles northeast of San Francisco and has a population of about 1,450,000.



## SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

555 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Ph: (415) 553-1671; Fax: (415) 553-9810

<http://sfpublicdefender.org/>

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; certified students may have the opportunity to argue motions on behalf of clients in court.

**Employment Tips:** Interested 3L students and graduates are encouraged to apply for a one-year unpaid position in which they will be able to conduct misdemeanor trials. The office typically prefers to hire attorneys who have several years of experience.

**County Information:** San Francisco County is located in the San Francisco Bay, directly west of Oakland. It has a population of about 840,000.



## SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

102 South San Joaquin Street, Suite 1, Stockton, CA 95202

Ph: (209) 468-2730; Fax: (209) 468-2267

<http://www.sjgov.org/pubdefender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Depends

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants are encouraged to participate in San Joaquin's unpaid Post-Bar Clerkship program.

**County Information:** San Joaquin County is located east of Alameda County in Central Valley. The county has a population of about 700,000.



## SAN MATEO COUNTY

333 Bradford Street, Suite 200, Redwood City, CA 94063

Ph: (650) 298-4000

<https://www.smcba.org/News/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=3>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** San Mateo County's Private Defender Program assigns court-appointed attorneys. Interested applicants should contact the program to be directed to an attorney. Recent graduates may be assigned misdemeanor cases.

**County Information:** San Mateo County occupies the southern peninsula of San Francisco Bay. It has a population of roughly 750,000.



## SANTA CLARA COUNTY

120 West Mission Street, San Jose, CA 95110

Ph: (408) 299-7700

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/pdo/Pages/pdo.aspx>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; certified students can apply for a paid Legal Research Clerk position, which involves researching, writing, and potentially arguing various pre-trial motions in felony cases.

**Employment Tips:** Graduates may also apply to be a Legal Research Clerk.

**County Information:** Santa Clara County is in the southernmost part of San Francisco Bay. It has a population of about 1,800,000.



## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

2103 North Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Ph: (831) 429-1311; Fax: (831) 429-5664

<http://www.sccdefenders.com/>

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** No

**Employment Tips:** Santa Cruz County always accepts applications and reviews them as openings arise. The law firm of Biggam, Christensen & Minsloff has held the contract to provide public defense services in the county since 1975.

**County Information:** Santa Cruz County is located along the Pacific Coast just south of San Francisco Bay. The southern part of the county makes up the northernmost part of Monterey Bay, while the northernmost part is considered part of San Francisco Bay. It has a population of about 270,000.



## SHASTA COUNTY

1815 Yuba Street, Redding, CA 96001

Ph: (530) 245-7598; Fax: (530) 245-7560

[http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/pd\\_index.aspx](http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/pd_index.aspx)

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Shasta County rarely hires and tends to only do so to replace retiring attorneys.

**County Information:** Shasta County is located in the northernmost part of Sacramento Valley. It has a population of just less than 180,000.



## SIERRA COUNTY

P.O. Box 682, Nevada City, CA 95959

Ph: (530) 273-5105 or (530) 265-4565

<http://www.sierracounty.ws/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Sierra County contracts out its public defense work. Interested applicants should contact Attorney J. Lon Cooper for more information.

**County Information:** Sierra County is located northeast of Sacramento, along the California border with Nevada. It has a population of a little less than 3,500.



## SISKIYOU COUNTY

402 Fourth Street, Suite 265, Yreka, CA 96097

Ph: (530) 842-8105; Fax: (530) 842-0135

<http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/page/public-defenders-office>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Siskiyou County only hires to replace attorneys who retire or leave the office. Interested applicants are encouraged to volunteer.

**County Information:** Siskiyou County is located along the California border with Oregon. It has a population of a little less than 45,000.



## SOLANO COUNTY

675 Texas Street, Suite 3500, Fairfield, CA 94533

Ph: (707) 784-6755; Fax: (707) 784-6706

<http://www.co.solano.ca.us/depts/pubdefender/home.asp>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; certified students will be able to argue motions in court, conduct evidentiary hearings, and may be assigned to represent clients charged with misdemeanors depending on their experience.

**Employment Tips:** Solano County only hires to replace attorneys who retire or leave the office. Interested graduates are encouraged to volunteer with the office in order to be in the most advantageous position when an opening occurs.

**County Information:** Solano County is located between Alameda County and Sacramento County. It is considered part of the San Francisco Bay area, and has a population of just over 420,000.



## SONOMA COUNTY

600 Administrative Drive #111, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Ph: (707) 565-2791; Fax: (707) 565-3357

<http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Public-Defender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**County Information:** Sonoma County is the northernmost county considered part of the San Francisco Bay area, and is part of California's "Wine Country." It has a population of just over 490,000.



## STANISLAUS COUNTY

1021 I Street, Suite 201, Modesto, CA 95354

Ph: (209) 525-4200; Fax: (209) 525-4244

<http://www.stancounty.com/publicdefender/index.shtm>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** No

**County Information:** Stanislaus County is located southeast of the San Francisco Bay area. It has a population of a little over 525,000. The most notable city is Modesto.



## SUTTER COUNTY

604 B Street, Suite 1, Yuba City, CA 95991

Ph: (530) 822-7355; Fax: (530) 673-7967

[http://www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/pd/pd\\_home](http://www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/pd/pd_home)

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** No

**County Information:** Sutter County is located north of Sacramento along the Sacramento River. It has a population of a little under 100,000.



## TEHAMA COUNTY

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Tehama County consists of several contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website

**County Information:** Tehama County is one of the northernmost counties in California. It has a population of just under 65,000.



## TRINITY COUNTY

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Trinity County consists of a few contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website

**County Information:** Trinity County is located along the Sacramento River in the Klamath Mountains. It has a population of just under 14,000.



## TUOLUMNE COUNTY

99 North Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370

Ph: (209) 533-6370; Fax: (209) 532-1185

<http://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/Index.aspx?NID=432>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**County Information:** Tuolumne County is located north of Yosemite National Park with the eastern portion of the county containing a portion of the park. It has a population of roughly 55,000. Sonora is the only incorporated city.



## YOLO COUNTY

814 North Street, Woodland, CA 95695-3538

Ph: (530) 666-8165; Fax: (530) 666-8405

<http://www.yolocounty.org/law-justice/public-defender>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; under attorney supervision, certified students will represent clients in court proceedings, argue motions, and may be given the opportunity to represent clients during a jury trial.

**Employment Tips:** Post-bar graduates are encouraged to volunteer at the office, where they will be given the opportunity represent clients at all stages of proceedings.

**County Information:** Yolo County is just west of Sacramento. It has a population of about 210,000 and is home to UC Davis.



## YUBA COUNTY

303 Sixth Street, Marysville, CA 95901

Ph: (530) 741-2331; Fax: (530) 741-2254

<http://www.co.yuba.ca.us/>

**1L Summer Positions?** No

**2L Summer Positions?** No

**Employment Tips:** Those interested in a position are encouraged to submit a resume for maintenance by the office should an opening arise.

**County Information:** Yuba County is located north of Sacramento along the Feather River. It has a population of about 73,000 and is considered part of the greater Sacramento area.

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – RICHARD A. CIUMMO & ASSOCIATES OFFICES

The indigent criminal defense services in the Northern California counties below have been contracted to the firm of Richard A. Ciummo & Associates. Any specified contacts are the Hiring Attorneys in charge of placing attorneys and student volunteers in each county office.



## RICHARD A. CIUMMO & ASSOCIATES

Donnie Maxwell  
123 East Fourth Street, Madera, CA 93638  
Ph: (559) 673-7227

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants should contact Donnie Maxwell. County office preferences will be considered.



## AMADOR COUNTY

201 Clinton Road, Suite 202, Jackson, CA 95642  
Ph: (209) 223-0877; Fax: (209) 223-0831

**County Information:** Amador County is in the Sierra Nevada of California directly east of San Francisco. It has a population of about 40,000.



## CALAVERAS COUNTY

Scott Gross  
692 B Marshall Street, P.O. Box 725, San Andreas, CA 95249  
Ph: (209) 754-4321; Fax: (209) 754-4123

**County Information:** Calaveras County is located just west of Yosemite National Park. It has a population of about 45,000.



## MADERA COUNTY

<http://www.madera-county.com/departments/contracted.html>

**County Information:** Madera County is home to the southernmost part of Yosemite National Park and is located just north of Fresno in the California Central Valley. It has a population of about 150,000.



## MODOC COUNTY

William Briggs

307 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 898, Alturas, CA 96101

Ph: (530) 233-2474; Fax: (530) 233-2484

**County Information:** Modoc County is located in the farthest northeast corner of California bordering Oregon to the North and Nevada to the East. It has a population of just under 10,000. A large portion of the county is federal land.



## PLACER COUNTY

Jonathan Richter

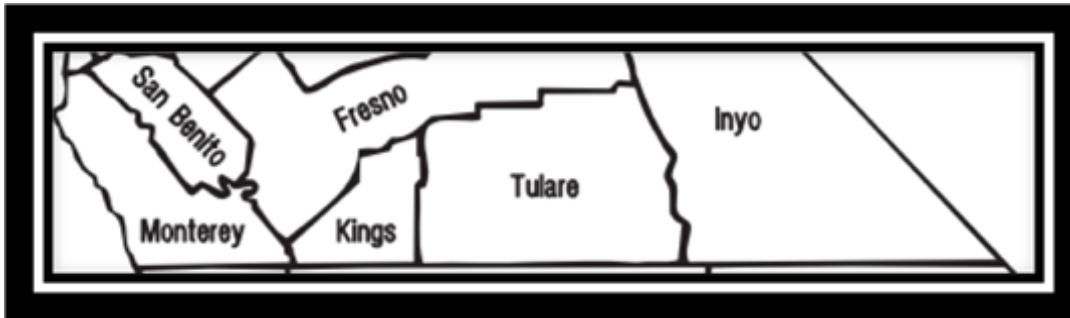
11760 Atwood Road Suite 4, Auburn, CA 95603

Ph: (530) 889-0280; Fax: (530) 889-0276

**County Information:** Placer County is one of the fastest growing counties in California. It is located just north of Sacramento and includes several suburbs of the city of Sacramento within its borders. It has a population of just under 370,000.



## CENTRAL CALIFORNIA



The Central California section of this Guide includes information about public defender offices and offices to which public defender services are contracted in 8 of the 58 counties in the state.



### FRESNO COUNTY

2220 Tulare Street Suite 300, Fresno, CA 93721  
Ph: (559) 600-3546; Fax: (559) 600-1570  
<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/Departments.aspx?id=404/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**County Information:** Fresno County is located just north of Bakersfield. It has a population of just under 1 million. Its largest city is Fresno.



### INYO COUNTY

<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Inyo County consists of a few contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website

**County Information:** Inyo County is located southeast of Yosemite National Park. It has a population of just under 20,000.



### KERN COUNTY

1315 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301  
Ph: (661) 868-4799; Fax: (661) 868-4785  
<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/pubdef/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**County Information:** Kern County is located in the southernmost part of California's Central Valley. It has a population of roughly 860,000.



### KINGS COUNTY

<http://www.countyofkings.com/>  
<http://www.pjdc.org/community-resources/defender-offices/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** The public defender system in Kings County consists of contracted attorneys. Interested applicants should look into contacting attorneys listed on the PJDC website

**County Information:** Kings County is located in California's Central Valley and has a population of roughly 150,000.



## MONTEREY COUNTY

111 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901

Ph: (831) 755-5058; Fax: (831) 755-5873

<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-i-z/public-defender>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Law school graduates are encouraged to volunteer with the office to be in the best position to learn of openings. Graduate volunteers will also get trial experience.

**County Information:** Monterey County is located along the Pacific Coast in central California and has a population of roughly 430,000.



## SAN BENITO COUNTY

339 Seventh Street Suite G, Hollister, CA 95023

Ph: (831) 636-9199; Fax: (831) 636-9499

<http://www.cosb.us/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** San Benito County contracts out its public defense work. Interested applicants should contact Attorney Gregory LaForge.

**County Information:** San Benito County is located southeast of Santa Clara County and east of Monterey County. It has a population of just over 55,000. Its largest city is Hollister.



## SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

991 Osos Street Suite A, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Ph: (805) 541-5715; Fax: (805) 541-3064

<http://www.slodefend.com/about-us/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** San Luis Obispo County contracts out its public defense work. San Luis Obispo Defenders, a professional law corporation, has been operating under contract with the County for over 35 years.

**County Information:** San Luis Obispo County is located south of Monterey County along the coast. It has a population of roughly 275,000.



## TULARE COUNTY

Courthouse, G-35, 221 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA 93291

Ph: (559) 636-4500; Fax: (559) 733-6113

<http://tularecountypublicdefender.com/publicdefender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** N/A

**2L Summer Positions?** N/A.

**County Information:** Tulare County is located at the foot of Sequoia National Forest. It has a population of just over 450,000 and is one of the country's leading producers of agricultural commodities.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



The Southern California section of this Guide includes information about public defender offices in 8 of the 58 counties in the state. None of the counties in this region contract out indigent criminal defense services.



### IMPERIAL COUNTY

895 Broadway St., El Centro, CA 92243  
Ph: (442) 265-1705; Fax: (442) 265-1706  
<http://www.co.imperial.ca.us/PublicDefender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes  
**2L Summer Positions?** Yes  
**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**County Information:** Imperial County is located in the southeast region of California in the Imperial Valley. It shares a border with Arizona and Mexico and has a population of just over 175,000.



### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

210 W. Temple St. #19-513, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Ph: (213) 974-2811  
<http://pd.co.la.ca.us>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes  
**2L Summer Positions?** Yes  
**Opportunities for certified students?** No

**Employment Tips:** Interested graduates should apply for a Post-Bar volunteer position with the office to be in the best position to learn of any openings.

**County Information:** Los Angeles County is the most populated county in the country with a population just over 10 million.



## ORANGE COUNTY

14 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4029

Ph: (714) 834-2144; Fax: (714) 834-6650

<http://www.pubdef.ocgov.com/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Interested graduates are encouraged to apply for the full-time Post Bar Clerkship in which they will assist attorneys in every aspect of case preparation and advocate on behalf of clients in court proceedings.

**County Information:** Orange County is located southwest of Los Angeles County. It is the third most populous county in the state with a population of a little over 3 million..



## RIVERSIDE COUNTY

4200 Orange Street, Riverside, CA 92501

Ph: (951) 955-6015; Fax: (951) 955-6114

<http://publicdef.co.riverside.ca.us/opencms/index.html>

1L Summer Position? Yes (but 2Ls preferred)

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** No

**Employment Tips:** Interested graduates are encouraged to volunteer with the county to be in the best position when hiring begins.

**County Information:** Riverside County stretches from the Arizona border to Orange County. It has a population of just over 2.25 million.



## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

364 N. Mountain View Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92415-005

Ph: (760) 243-8919; Fax: (760) 243-8766

<http://www.sbcounty.gov/PublicDefender/Default.asp>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; certified students may have the opportunity to litigate motion in the San Bernardino County Superior Court.

**Employment Tips:** Interested applicants are encouraged to apply to become a Post-Bar Clerk, as the office has hired numerous clerks for attorney positions.

**County Information:** San Bernardino County is on the border of Nevada along the Colorado River. It has a population of just over 2 million.



## SAN DIEGO COUNTY

450 B Street Suite 900, San Diego, CA 92101

Ph: (619) 338-4700

[http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/public\\_defender/index.html](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/public_defender/index.html)

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes

**Employment Tips:** Interested graduates are encouraged to apply for a full-time Post Bar Clerkship position.

**County Information:** San Diego County is the southernmost county in California. Its southern border is the border with Mexico. It has a population of just over 3.2 million.



## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

1100 Anacapa Street 3rd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Ph: (805) 568-3494; Fax: (805) 568-3538

<http://www.countyofsb.org/defender/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** N/A

**Employment Tips:** Interested graduates are encouraged to volunteer with the office in order to be aware of opportunities within the office as they arise.

**County Information:** Santa Barbara County is located northwest of Los Angeles County. The county has a population of just over 430,000.



## VENTURA COUNTY

800 S. Victoria Ave., HOJ #207, Ventura, CA 93009

Ph: (805) 654-2201; Fax: (707) 477-1587

<http://www.pubdef.countyofventura.org/>

**1L Summer Positions?** Yes

**2L Summer Positions?** Yes

**Opportunities for certified students?** Yes; certified students may appear on the record and argue motions in some matters under attorney supervision.

**Employment Tips:** Ventura County hires to replace attorneys who retire. The best way to be competitive for an opening position is to have volunteered with the office.

**County Information:** Ventura County is located on California's Pacific Coast just south of Santa Barbara County. It has a population of just under 900,000.