

# **Benton County** **Position Opening**



**Benton County requires that you complete a separate application for each position opening.**

<b>Position:</b>	Staff Attorney I
<b>Department:</b>	Benton County Office of Public Defense
<b>Location:</b>	Benton County Justice Center, Kennewick, WA
<b>Salary Range:</b>	\$4197-\$4281 Monthly (DOQ), Plus Benefits
<b>Employment Type:</b>	Full-Time, Benton County Non-Bargaining Position
<b>Opening Date:</b>	February 23, 2012
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Until Filled
<b>Job Description:</b>	This is a professional legal position providing legal defense services on behalf of the Benton County Office of Public Defense. An employee in this position will be appointed by the Court or its designee to provide criminal defense representation to indigent defendants facing misdemeanor or felony criminal charges in Benton County District or Superior Courts. Representation will involve all phases of criminal proceedings including initial appearances, arraignment, pre-trial hearings, trial, plea negotiations, sentencing, and appeals from District Court. Primary caseload will consist of misdemeanor cases filed in District Court but responsibilities will also include preliminary appearance representation in Superior Court.
<b>Minimum Qualifications:</b>	This position requires a current Washington State Bar membership in good standing. Candidates who are sitting for the next Bar Examination may be considered for an offer contingent upon bar passage. Position also requires a valid Washington State driver's license and passage of Benton County background investigation. At least 6 months experience in defending or prosecuting criminal cases including direct experience in at least two jury trials either as primary or assisting (second chair) counsel. An appropriate combination of practical experience (including internships and externships) and trial advocacy clinics may substitute for the required experience.
<b>Desired Qualifications:</b>	Strong personal computing skills including use of common business software. Ability to manage time and prioritize work under varying conditions, deadlines and levels of stress. Skill in analyzing and organizing materials for persuasive and effective presentations. Ability to manage a substantial caseload of clients. Proven ability to exercise sound judgment in making legal decisions, interacting with colleagues, consulting with senior attorneys and supervisors, and working either individually or as part of a team as necessary. Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing. Conduct all trial actions including selection of jury, cross and direct examination, introduction of evidence and exhibits, and making arguments on the law and interpretation of the evidence. File, present and argue appeals to Superior Court from District Court through the Rules for Appeal of Decisions of Courts of Limited Jurisdiction process.
<b>Application Process:</b>	Visit our website at <a href="http://www.co.benton.wa.us">www.co.benton.wa.us</a> or contact Benton County Personnel Resources at (509) 737-2777. Please submit a cover letter, resume, and application to: Personnel Resources Department 7122 W. Okanogan Place Bldg. A Kennewick, WA 99336 EOE/AA

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