



Job Opening Adams County, Nebraska Public Defender

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER:

The Office of Adams County Public Defender shall be an elected position, and it is required by Nebraska State Law that the Adams County Public Defender shall be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Nebraska.

The duties of the Adams County Public Defender which are prescribed by Nebraska State Law are as follows:

1. To represent all indigent felony defendants in Adams County. The public defender shall represent indigent felony defendants at all critical stages of felony proceedings against them through the stage of sentencing. Sentencing shall include hearings on charges of violation of felony probation. Following the sentencing of any indigent defendant represented by the public defender, the public defender may take any appeals as authorized by Nebraska State Law.
2. To represent all indigent persons charged with misdemeanor offenses punishable by imprisonment, when appointed to do so by the court.
3. To represent all indigent persons against whom a petition has been filed with a mental health board.
4. To represent all indigent persons in cases filed pursuant to the juvenile code.
5. To represent all indigent persons in child support enforcement matters as such persons are deemed eligible by the Court.

The additional duties of the Adams County Public Defender are as follows:

1. To hire and supervise assistant public defenders, secretaries, law clerks, investigators, and other employees as are reasonably necessary to permit the Adams County Public Defender to competently represent the clients of the office, subject to the approval and consent of the Adams County Board of Supervisors which shall fix the compensation of all such persons.
2. To prepare an annual budget for the Office of Adams County Public Defender and to obtain approval of such annual budget by the Adams County Board of Supervisors.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, resume and professional references to:

Adams County Clerk
Attn: Personnel
500 W 4th St Ste 109
Hastings, NE 68901

Requested documents will be accepted via mail or in person delivery up until 5:00 pm May 10, 2023. No email applications will be accepted. Publicly open interviews with the full Adams County Board of Commissioners are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 2:00 pm for those selected for an interview.

Please see the employment section of the Adams County website for more information including wage information and relevant state statutes. www.adamscountyne.gov



**Adams County
Board of Commissioners**

500 W 4th St Ste 109
Hastings, NE 68901
402-461-7107
Chairman: Lee Hogan
lhogan@adamscountyne.gov

Office Vacancy
Adams County Public Defender

Applications are being collected for the appointment of the Adams County Public Defender. The appointee shall fulfill the remaining term of office expiring January of 2025. Per §23-3401; the public defender must be a lawyer licensed to practice law in Nebraska. This is a part time elected position that includes a full benefit package. Please see the Adams County Website for a full job description and salary information.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest, resume, and references to:

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500 W 4th St Ste 109
Hastings, NE 68901

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§23-3401.

Public defender in certain counties; election; qualifications; prohibited practices; residency.

(1) There is hereby created the office of public defender in counties that have or that attain a population in excess of one hundred thousand inhabitants and in other counties upon approval by the county board. The public defender shall be elected as provided in the Election Act.

(2) The public defender shall be a lawyer licensed to practice law in this state. He or she shall take office after election and qualification at the same time that other county officers take office, except that upon the creation of such office in any county, a qualified person may be appointed by the county board to serve as public defender until such office can be filled by an election in accordance with section [32-523](#).

(3) In counties having a population of more than one hundred seventy thousand inhabitants, the public defender shall devote his or her full time to the legal work of the office of the public defender and shall not engage in the private practice of law. All assistant public defenders in such counties shall devote their full time to the legal work of such office of the public defender and shall not engage in the private practice of law so long as each assistant public defender receives the same annual salary as each deputy county attorney of comparable ability and experience receives in such counties.

(4) No public defender or assistant public defender shall solicit or accept any fee for representing a criminal defendant in a prosecution in which the public defender or assistant is already acting as the defendant's court-appointed counsel.

(5) A public defender elected after November 1986 need not be a resident of the county when he or she files for election as public defender, but a public defender shall reside in a county for which he or she holds office, except that in counties with a population of one hundred thousand or less inhabitants, the public defender shall not be required to reside in the county in which he or she holds office.

Resolution 2020-01-07.02

Salary for the Adams County Public Defender For years 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised §23-1117 states:

(1) The salaries of all elected officers of the county shall be fixed by the county board prior to January 15 of the year in which a general election will be held for the respective offices. And

WHEREAS, the position of the Adams County Public Defender will be on the 2020 election ballot, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Adams County Board of Supervisors fixes the annual salary of the Adams County Public Defender as follows:

<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
\$71,175.23	\$72,812.26	\$74,486.94	\$76,200.14

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as stated in Adams County Resolutions 74-13 and 76-1-6, the position of the Adams County Public Defender is considered an exempt part time position, and the person holding this office may engage in the private practice of law. Reimbursable office expenses, if any, shall be reviewed each year at the annual budget hearings for the county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the above stated salary, the Adams County Public Defender shall be entitled to all benefits offered to full time Adams County employees.

Motion by Glen Larsen


Seconded by Chuck Neumann

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstaining 0 Absent 0


Lee Hogan
Adams County Board Chairman

1-7-2021
Date

Attest:


Ramona R. Thomas
Adams County Clerk

1-7-2020
Date



2022-2023

Adams County Group Insurance Rates

All premiums are per month and auto deducted from paychecks

Health Insurance – Blue Cross Blue Shield

	County	HRA	Employee
Employee Only	\$917.54	\$97.50	\$0.00
Employee & Spouse OR Child(ren)	\$1544.10	\$165.75	\$297.78
Family	\$1723.75	\$186.23	\$383.55

Cash in lieu \$406.02

Delta Dental

Employee Only	\$27.04
Employee & Spouse	\$55.22
Employee & Child(ren)	\$59.06
Family	\$92.86

Ameritas Vision Insurance

Employee Only	\$10.64
Employee & Spouse	\$23.12
Employee & Child(ren)	\$20.90
Family	\$29.38

June is Open Enrollment