



NORTHWEST COMMUNITY LAW OFFICE

**ACCESSIBLE, COMPREHENSIVE
REPRESENTATION LOCATED IN
THE COMMUNITY**

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of the Public Defender is to provide superior legal representation to indigent defendants in the State of Maryland by safeguarding fundamental individual rights and ensuring access to the guaranteed protections afforded by the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Maryland Constitution and Declaration of Rights, and the laws of Maryland.

Our Experience

In providing assistance of counsel to indigent defendants in Baltimore City for over 30 years, we have learned that real justice requires offering a broad range of services to address issues of illness and poverty underlying the criminal justice system.

Creation of a Community Law Office

- Intention is to become an active part of the community, working from within to partner with communities and make the constitutional promise of justice a reality for *all* of Baltimore's citizens.
- Committed to affording each client and the community the services and support to resolve both the criminal case and the issues underlying criminal justice contact.

Services of the CLO

- Effective Criminal Representation with increased support for attorneys
- Ancillary matters
- Social support
 - Client
 - Family
- Community collaboration
- Better client and community contact

Team Members

- Director
- Paralegal
- Secretary
- Social Worker
- District Attorney
- Felony Attorneys
- Related Necessary Services Attorney

Providing Related Services:

Attorney

- Handle ancillary matters within the ethical and legal mandates of an assistant public defender
- Partner with other legal groups to offer a broader range of services
- Provide representation in coordination with all criminal matters

Benefits of Providing Ancillary Representation

- Greater Information for Attorney and Client
 - Immigration consequences
 - Impacts of pleas on housing status
 - Questions about employment difficulties
- More Services Provided to Client
 - Expungement of records
 - Pursuing return of property
 - Bridging gaps of civil representation

**Expected Outcomes: Better Services for the
Northwest Community and Our Clients Through:**

- Encourage more collaboration with other legal and social entities
- Social support
 - Client
 - Family
- Community partnerships
- Better client and community contact

