

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE of Garland County, Arkansas

Tim Beckham-Chief Public Defender

Deputy Public Defenders: Tamra Barrett, Morse Gist, Clay Janske, Ann Hill, Ron Kelsey, Terri Harris, Mark Fraiser and Shane Ethridge

What is a Public Defender?

Public Defenders are attorneys appointed by the Court to represent any person not financially able to employ counsel for criminal offenses.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Garland County Public Defender's Office is to deliver competent, effective and ethical legal representation to indigent persons charged with a crime in this county.

Public Defender's Services

The Garland County Public Defender's Office provides constitutionally mandated representation to indigent persons in over 3,000 adult, juvenile and mental health cases each year. We protect the rights of our clients and guarantee that they receive equal protection under the law, regardless of race, creed, national origin or socio-economic status. We advise clients of their legal rights; and defend the clients' legal rights.

Eligibility

Representation is determined by the presiding Judge in Court. The Defendant completes a sworn statement of inability to afford private counsel.

The Garland County Public Defenders handle cases ranging from simple misdemeanors to complex felonies and death penalty cases, including:

Extradition Hearing
Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings
Juvenile FINS Proceedings
Probation Violations
Sanity Hearings
Appeals/Post-Conviction Relief Hearings

- ❖ Our office can **not** handle divorces, child support, custody cases or DHS proceedings. Also, we do not represent individuals charged with infractions-offenses punishable by only a fine. We do represent individuals on several driving-related offenses, such as driving under the influence, reckless driving, etc.

Contact information: Garland County Public Defender, 223 Woodbine Ave., Hot Springs, AR 71901
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