

## **DEFENDER BASED ADVOCATE**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for performing advocacy services and other work related to developing and operating a program which develops alternatives to pretrial detention and incarcerative sentences. The work is carried out utilizing a variety of approaches and involves developing individualized treatment plans for selected defendants and advocating viable alternatives to pretrial detention and incarcerative sentences for use in the courts. The incumbent works directly with clients, probation, human service agencies and other governmental agencies to achieve programmatic goals. The work is carried out under the general direction with considerable leeway to carry out responsibilities. Supervision may be exercised over the work of subordinates. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Identifies and screens potentially appropriate participants in the program, based on referrals from various agencies, but excluding defendants with histories of violent criminal behavior;

Develops individualized treatment plans for selected defendants as alternatives to pretrial detention and post conviction incarceration;

Works with defense attorney to expedite bail or have defendant released on recognizance;

Assists the courts in ensuring that defendants appear as required through contact with defendants;

Prepares memoranda recommending non-incarcerative sentences for defendants;

Advocates the institution, where appropriate, of non-incarcerative sentencing as an alternative;

Attends various meetings and represents the program;

Prepares a variety of written reports and oral presentations.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Basic knowledge of social sciences, including sociology, psychology and economics; basic knowledge of social service programs and other community resources; basic knowledge of laws pertaining to probation work and functions and procedures of Family and Criminal courts; basic knowledge of factors related to crime and delinquency; good judgement in dealing with people; ability to understand, interpret and prepare written material; physical condition commensurate to the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduate degree in social work, education, administration, law, sociology, psychology, criminology, or a related field or bachelor's degree and two (2) years experience in counseling, casework, or legal advocacy work in a recognized agency adhering to

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acceptable standards in probation, parole, social services, psychiatric or medical social work, or related work; or an appropriate combination of above training and experience.

ULSTER COUNTY

2130 DEF BS ADV

Classification: Competitive

Grade: 14

Union: CSEA

Adopted: October 31, 1991

Revised May 8, 1992