

Office of the State Public Defender Administrative Policies

Subject: Regional Deputy Public Defender Caseload Limitations	Policy No.: xxx
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1.0 POLICY

Pursuant to Section 47-1-215(2)(h), MCA, the following policy sets maximum caseloads for Regional Deputy Public Defenders. The policy is intended to serve the requirements of Regional Deputy Public Defenders to maintain a caseload alongside the attorneys they supervise, while also effectively managing their regions.

2.0 PROCEDURE

2.1 Maximum caseloads as are defined herein are intended to be strongly recommended while understanding that unusual circumstance in any region may make them unrealistic.

2.2 Maximum caseload limits are expressed in terms of hours per calendar year.

2.3 The following total hours per region are as follows:

- 2.3.1** Region 1 600 hours
- 2.3.2** Region 2 600 hours
- 2.3.3** Region 3 1000 hours
- 2.3.4** Region 4 1000 hours
- 2.3.5** Region 5 1000 hours
- 2.3.6** Region 6 1400 hours
- 2.3.7** Region 7 1400 hours
- 2.3.8** Region 8 1000 hours
- 2.3.9** Region 9 600 hours
- 2.3.10** Region 10 1400 hours
- 2.3.11** Region 11 1400 hours

2.4 The Chief Public Defender will monitor the caseloads of the Regional Deputy Public Defenders on a monthly basis, taking into consideration the following variables and any others relevant at the time:

- 2.4.1** Size of region
- 2.4.2** Number of personnel supervised
- 2.4.3** Attorney vacancies
- 2.4.4** Management structure in the region
- 2.4.5** Nature and status of cases being handled
- 2.4.6** Capabilities of the Regional Deputy
- 2.4.7** Travel requirements of region
- 2.4.8** Extraordinary, temporary circumstances

3.0 CLOSING

Questions about this policy should be directed to OPD at the following address:

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