

**CITY OF SEATTLE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PUBLIC DEFENSE SERVICES**

The City of Seattle's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) is seeking proposals from law firms that can provide effective counsel to indigent defendants charged in Seattle Municipal Court with misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor crimes. Proposals meeting the requirements of this RFP will only be accepted from non-profit law firms (i.e. a 501(c)3 or similar IRS tax status).

The City of Seattle is responsible for providing indigent defense services to persons charged with misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor crimes who meet certain financial eligibility criteria. Seattle currently contracts with two non-profit law firms to provide public defense services. This RFP will change the structure of the City's defense services by seeking to contract with three non-profit law firms. Seattle will contract directly with a single non-profit law firm to handle approximately 4,180 cases as the primary public defender (Primary Defender) for the City. A contract with a second non-profit law firm (Secondary Defender) will handle approximately 2,660 cases. A third public defender agency (Third Defender) will handle cases where both the Primary and Secondary agencies have a conflict (estimated to be 75-130 cases) in addition to the administration of assigned counsel cases (where all three defender agencies have identified a conflict.)

Proposals may be mailed or delivered in person but must be received at the address shown below **no later than 4:00 p.m. Monday, March 10, 2008**. Late proposals will not be accepted. Faxed or emailed copies will not be accepted. Firms are solely responsible for ensuring that Proposals are delivered on time. Delays caused by any delivery service, including the U.S. Postal Service, will not be grounds for an extension of the deadline for the receipt of Proposals.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Taylor-Manning, the Public Defense RFP Coordinator.

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