

EDWARD J. BOSWALD

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July 20, 2019

Office of the Colorado State Public Defender
Attn: Jane Gonzalez
1300 Broadway Suite 400
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Gonzalez:

I am a third-year student at the University of Wisconsin Law School and I write to apply for an entry-level attorney position starting in the Fall of 2019. Based on my research and conversations with Colorado public defenders, the Colorado OSPD is exactly the kind of office I want to begin my career with: an office that emphasizes both litigation and client-focused representation, has a rigorous and time-tested training program, operates statewide, and offers the opportunity to use my Spanish language skills. My discussions with Anna McCarty and Jack Hillsboro have only heightened my interest in working in Colorado; both highlighted the extraordinary amount of jury trials an entry-level OSPD attorney is able to litigate, as well as the office's frequent and intensive skills training.

I hope to bring my diverse set of experiences and demonstrated commitment to assisting the underserved to your office. Prior to law school, I spent over four years as a Disability Benefit Specialist. I fought for benefits and navigated complex bureaucracies on behalf of 50-60 clients at a time, most of whom were indigent and mentally ill. I also served four years on Appleton's City Council, elected twice. This required me to master large amounts of information quickly, speak extemporaneously in public, and problem-solve on my feet.

My law school experiences have prepared me to be of value to your office from day one. Before and during law school, public defenders have counseled me to obtain as much on-the-record courtroom experience as possible. With that in mind, I've sought out clinical and clerkship opportunities that would have me on my feet and speaking on the record. As a clinical law student, I first-chaired a successful deportation hearing in Chicago Immigration Court. This past summer, I appeared on the record every morning during arraignment and argued bail and custody status in the fast-paced and busy Las Vegas Justice Court. I first-chaired a misdemeanor bench trial, and after my cross-examination of the alleged victim, the judge urged the prosecution to offer my client a stayed adjudication of a lesser charge, which the prosecutor had refused to do pre-trial.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss this position with you further. Please note that I will be attending the Equal Justice Works Career Fair on October 26 and 27, and I plan on submitting an application with Colorado OSPD through the bidding process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Edward J. Boswald