



**MONTANA STATE
PUBLIC DEFENDER**

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April 7, 2025

Senate Finance and Claims Committee
Via email to Katie Guenther, LFD

RE: Senator Boldman's April 7, 2025, request

Chair Glimm, Senator Boldman, and Members of the Committee:

Please find attached OPD's response to Senator Boldman's information request from today's HB 102 hearing.

Sincerely,

/s/ Koan Mercer

Koan Mercer
Central Services Division Administrator

OPD Response to Senate Finance and Claims Committee’s April 7, 2025, Information Request Regarding HB 102 and Caseload Requirements for Top FTE Earners

Position(s)	Description	Job Code	Annual base wage	Required caseload
Director	Supervise and direct OPD system	000141 (Other/Prof-Admin)	\$156,000	none
Public Defender Division Administrator	Administers Div 1 and supervises its Regional Public Defenders	A3101E (Business Executive)	\$130,885	prohibited (47-1-202(2))
Appellate Division Administrator	Administers Div 2 and supervises its Managing Public Defenders and Office Manager	A3101E (Business Executive)	\$130,885	"a minimum client caseload as determined by the director" (47-1-301(3)(h))
Conflict Defender Division Administrator	Administers Div 3 and supervises its Managing Public Defenders and Office Manager	A3101E (Business Executive)	\$130,885	prohibited (47-1-401(3))
Central Services Division Administrator	Administers Div 4 and supervises its department heads (IT, HR, Accounting, Contracts, DevOps, Training)	A3101E (Business Executive)	\$130,885	none
Region 1, Regional Public Defender	Supervises Region 1 and its Managing Public Defenders and Office Managers	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$118,986	25% (OPD Policy 201(3)(A)(i))
Region 2, Regional Public Defender	Supervises Region 2 and its Managing Public Defenders and Office Managers	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$118,986	25% (OPD Policy 201(3)(A)(i))
Region 3, Regional Public Defender	Supervises Region 3 and its Managing Public Defenders and Office Managers	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$118,986	25% (OPD Policy 201(3)(A)(i))
Family Defense Bureau, Regional Public Defender	Supervises Family Defense Bureau and its Managing Public Defenders and Office Manager	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$118,986	25% (OPD Policy 201(3)(A)(i))
CODE (training) Bureau Chief	Develops training, standards, and brief bank, serves as mentor co-counsel to line attorneys, and supervises training attorneys/staff	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$118,986	25% (OPD Policy 201(3)(A)(i))
Managing Public Defenders	Manage local offices and supervise line Public Defenders and Investigators	G1101M (Lawyer Supervisor)	\$108,169	100% minus 7.5% per direct report, average is 55% (Policy 201(3)(A)(i))