

# Completing the Public Defender Application



## Complete the application

For the best user experience, do not use Internet Explorer (IE) to complete the application. Instead, select a browser such as Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or Safari to complete the application.

1. Read the statements and check **I have read the statements above** if you agree with the statements.
2. Click **Continue**.
3. Fill in as much information as possible for each question. You must complete all required fields marked with an asterisk (\*). These include the county where the case is filed and personal information about yourself.

Continue to answer all questions with as much detail as possible.

 The application contains a reset timer for security. After five minutes of inactivity, the form will reset and all answers will be erased. Click **Reset Application Form** in the upper right corner of the screen to clear the application at any time.

4. Read **Section 3 - Agreement** and check the box if you agree.
5. Type your full name in the **Applicant's Signature** field.
6. Check the **I'm not a robot** box.
7. Click **Submit**. You will not be able to submit your form until you answer all required fields. Your application will be filed into your case and reviewed by the court.
8. Click **Print** to print the application, if desired. You will have one minute to print before the form resets.

**MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH PUBLIC DEFENDER APPLICATION**

This online form will help you fill out and file an application for a public defender for a district court criminal case in Minnesota. If you are not applying for a public defender for a criminal case, you should not use this online form. Ask local court administration for directions if you do not have a criminal case. Contact information for each courthouse online at <https://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts.aspx>.

**Instructions for using the online public defender application:**

- You must answer any question marked as required. If you do not answer the questions you will not be able to submit your form for review.
- A judicial officer needs as much financial information as possible. If you do not answer all of the questions to the best of your ability, your request may be denied or you may have to fill out the form again.
- If there is no activity on the form for 5 minutes, your answers will be deleted. This is a safety measure to keep information private.
- After answering all of the questions, be sure to review that everything is correct. Type your name and click "submit."
- If you want a copy of the form you submit to the court for review, you can print or save to your computer.

**Please read the following statements and check that you understand:**

- Only people who cannot afford an attorney are eligible to have a public defender represent them.
- Even if you are found eligible for a public defender, you may be required to pay some amount toward the cost of your representation.
- If you fail to pay the court-ordered reimbursement or co-payment, the Court may refer your case to the Minnesota Department of Revenue for collection of the unpaid amount. This could affect any Minnesota income tax refund, property tax refund, or rent credit that you may be entitled to.
- If your contact information or your financial situation changes, you have to update the court with any new information.
- The judicial officer may ask you to explain, under oath, any of your answers, or any questions you leave blank. This includes any information about income and assets of a live-in partner.

Under Minnesota case law, State v. Jones, 772 NW2d 496 (Minn. 2009), the Court may consider the income and assets of a spouse or live-in girlfriend/boyfriend in determining eligibility for a public defender.

I have read the statements above.

**Continue**

Public Defender Application

*\*Required fields*

County \* Jackson Court File No. 0 of 50 Judicial District Fifth

**Section 1 - Personal Information**

Full Name \* Someone Smith Date Of Birth \* 1/1/2001 13 of 50

Check only if you do not have a mailing address

Address \* 123 Somewhere Street

City \* Jackson State \* Minnesota Zip \* 56143 7 of 50

Home Phone 0 of 50 Cell Phone

**Reset Application Form** 

**WARNING: This form will reset after 5 minutes of inactivity.**

**Section 3 - Agreement**

If you provide false information on your application, it may lead to criminal charges against you. If information about anything you put on this form changes, including information about your employment, you must notify the Court. Even if you are found eligible for a public defender, you may be required to pay some amount toward the cost of your representation. If you are eligible for a public defender, the Court may impose a \$75 co-payment separate from any other reimbursement that is ordered.

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything that I have stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116.

Applicant's Signature \* Someone Smith 13 of 50

I'm not a robot 

**Submit**

Your application was submitted. The form data will be cleared in **52 seconds**.

**Print**