



#### REENTRY LEGAL SERVICES & ADVOCACY

- Parole release hearings
- Early termination of parole hearings
- Early termination of supervised release
- D.C. criminal record sealing
- Inaccurate D.C. criminal records (including stolen identity cases, background checks, and credit reports)
- Sex offender registration requirements
- Conditions of parole, supervised release, and probation
- D.C. child support modifications due to incarceration
- Employment and housing denials due to a D.C. criminal record
- Occupational license denials due to a D.C. criminal record
- Referrals for social services and community based support

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & POLICY WORK

- Community education and outreach
- Legal clinics
- Committees addressing criminal justice reform

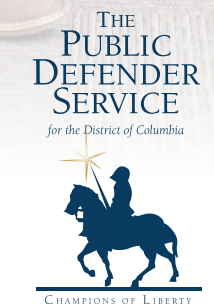
## Location

We are conveniently located in the Southeast community of Washington, D.C. only steps away from the Potomac Avenue Metro station (Orange/Blue/Silver lines) and several D.C. Metro Bus lines for convenient access and proximity to government and nonprofit community service organizations that also serve people with D.C. criminal and juvenile records. Our entrance faces Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. We are located on the 2nd floor. We recommend that you call us before visiting the office to confirm when we will be accepting walk-in visitors. We also understand that our customers lead busy lives – please call us if you would like to make an appointment that meets your scheduling needs.

#### Community Defender Division

##### Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services

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**Community  
Defender Division**

Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services



## Our Beginnings

The Public Defender Service began providing legal services to D.C. prisoners in 1974 through the Correctional Services Program (later identified as the Prisoner Rights Program and Institutional Services Program) which provided D.C. prisoners with legal representation in administrative matters and with assistance regarding issues arising out of their conditions of confinement.

In 2002, PDS began providing reentry legal services through the Community Reentry Program to respond to the needs of those returning home from the Federal Bureau of Prisons and from the D.C. Jail to assist them in making a successful transition back into the community through legal services, social service referrals, and community outreach and education.

Today, PDS continues this longstanding tradition and commitment to prisoner rights and reentry by providing these services through its restructured Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services program.

## What is the Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services Program?

The Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services Program (PRLS) serves D.C. prisoners at institutions operated by the D.C. Department of Corrections as well as across the nation by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Our services include legal representation of prisoners in administrative hearings in D.C. Department of Corrections facilities and in parole release hearings in Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities. Our program also represents individuals in the community under the supervision of the U.S. Parole Commission seeking early termination of parole or supervised release. Additionally, PRLS represents individuals in motions to seal eligible criminal records in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Likewise, the program provides representation to those who are seeking employment and housing but are adversely affected by their criminal records. PRLS represents and advocates for individuals in other matters where prior arrests, convictions, and/or incarceration serve as barriers to success in the community. PRLS is also an active participant in community events geared toward returning citizens. Lastly, PRLS participates in a variety of formal and informal committees with other criminal justice stakeholders to work on systemic change and policy, and to advocate for the rights of justice-involved persons.



## How can PRLS help me or my loved one?

PRLS provides legal representation and advocacy to protect the rights of D.C. prisoners and individuals seeking to remove obstacles, including collateral consequences, caused by having a criminal record in the District of Columbia. If you have ever been involved in the D.C. criminal justice system by being arrested, being charged, having pre-trial release conditions, being convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, being on community supervision (probation, parole, supervised release), or being sentenced (community corrections, jail, prison), you may be eligible for our legal services. Areas of legal representation and advocacy include, but are not limited to:

### PRISONER LEGAL SERVICES & ADVOCACY

- D.C. Department of Corrections (DOC) administrative hearings
- Prisoner advocacy for individuals incarcerated at the D.C. Jail, at the Central Treatment Facility (CTF), and in the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facilities
- Sentence computation, designation, and classification assistance for individuals incarcerated in the BOP