

**APPELLATE DEFENDER ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 620 of 1978**

**780.714 Appellate defender, deputy appellate defender, and assistant appellate defender; qualifications, duties, and restrictions; court employees.**

Sec. 4. (1) The appellate defender, deputy appellate defender, and each assistant appellate defender shall:

(a) Be an attorney licensed to practice law in this state.

(b) Take and subscribe to the oath required by the constitution before taking office.

(c) Perform duties as may be provided by law.

(d) Represent the indigent defendant only subsequent to a conviction or entry of a guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere at the trial court level.

(e) Not engage in the practice of law or as an attorney or counselor in a court of this state except in the exercise of his duties under this act.

(2) For purposes of this act the appellate defender, the deputy appellate defender, the assistant appellate defender, and support personnel shall be considered as court employees and not as classified civil service employees.

**History:** 1978, Act 620, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 1979.