

Prior law required executive staff, regional directors, secretarial, clerical, and other personnel directly employed in the operations of the La. Public Defender Board be state employees. All other personnel employed or who serve under contract in a district office are considered local employees of the public defender district.

New law removes requirement that non-board employees be local employees of the district.

Prior law required the board to meet 10 times per year until 2010, and thereafter meet eight times per year. Required at least three board meetings in parishes outside of East Baton Rouge.

New law reduces the required meetings from eight times per year to four times per year and removes the requirement that three board meetings be held in parishes outside East Baton Rouge.

Prior law required the director of juvenile defender services and the juvenile justice compliance officer to have at least five years of specific experience in the defense of juveniles in delinquency proceedings.

New law removes such experience requirement and requires the director of juvenile defender services and the juvenile justice compliance officer to have experience as a criminal defense attorney or in juvenile law. Further requires the director of juvenile services to assist the state public defender.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 7, 2013).

(Amends R.S. 15:147(E), 149.2(B)(1) and (D), 154(A)(2) and (B)(1), and 158(A)(3))