The 6ᵗʰ Annual Criminal Defense Trial Practice Institute (TPI)

TPI COORDINATORS
Ieshaah Murphy (Harvard '12), Kevann Gardner (Cardozo '11), Natalie Lawson (Howard '07),
Dinah Manning (Columbia '14), Lauren Johnson (NYU '12) ;
Legal Recruiting Director Jennifer Thomas (UTexas '91) (not pictured)

The Public Defender Service Criminal Defense Trial Practice Institute (TPI) seeks to help students cultivate effective trial advocacy skills and explore indigent criminal defense work through an intensive training program taught by practicing trial attorneys. The program consists of a week of workshops on how to conduct opening statements, direct examinations, cross examinations, and closing arguments. In addition, students will learn how to develop theories of defense, master the rules of evidence, and impeach witnesses at trial. At the end of the program, students will participate in full-length mock trials presided over by District of Columbia Superior Court judges.

The Institute is designed to support law students from traditionally underrepresented minority groups, students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, and/or students from law schools that have limited criminal defense and trial advocacy training opportunities.

This year's Institute will be held **May 12 – May 17, 2019**. Each student is expected to commit to participating in the entire program, which includes five evening sessions. The program is free of charge to students, although students are expected to provide their own transportation and lodging.

To apply, please complete the application on the PDS website at pdsdc.org (calendar of events page). As part of your application, please describe your criminal defense interest and trial advocacy experience in less than two pages, and attach a copy of your current resume. Please upload your essay and resume in PDF format under the "attachments" tab. All applications must be submitted by **March 27, 2019**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to PDSTPI@pdsdc.org.

THE
PUBLIC
DEFENDER
SERVICE
for the District of Columbia