

New national workload standards confirm shortage for LOPD

The study finds that effective public defense, as guaranteed by the Constitution, now requires over twice as much time as previously thought.

-- National Public Defense Workload Study

A justice system burdened by triage risks unreliability, denying all people who rely on it — victims, witnesses, defendants, and their families and communities — efficient, equal, and accurate justice.

Annual caseload
assignments

78,493

LOPD Cases Assigned by Fiscal Year



Attorneys we have

In-house + contract

349

FY25 Budget Request seeks 30 attorney FTE and 30 core staff, investigators and social workers

Attorneys we need

for total case assignments

897+

According to ABA Workload Study of NM LOPD Jan. 2022

Budget

20.8%

Current

\$71.7_m

Ask

\$86.6_m

Vacancy Rate

Significant recruiting challenges due to workload and pay, especially in rural locations

Statewide staff and attorney vacancy rate

20.3%

