

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

*An Act to amend and reenact § 19.2-163.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the duties of public defenders.*

[H 2991]

Approved

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 19.2-163.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 19.2-163.3. Duties of public defenders.

Public defenders ~~and their assistants~~ shall carry out the following duties *in accordance with the guidance, policies, and authorizations of the Indigent Defense Commission:*

(a) To ~~secure~~ *assist the executive director of the Commission in securing* office space, to employ a staff, to fix salaries and to do such other things necessary to carry out the duties imposed upon them with the approval of the Commission.

(b) To represent *or supervise assistants in representing* within their respective jurisdictions as set out in § 19.2-163.04 indigent persons charged with a crime or offense when such persons are entitled to be represented by law by court-appointed counsel in a court of record or a court not of record.

(c) To represent *or supervise assistants in representing* indigent persons who are entitled to be represented by court-appointed counsel in an appeal of their conviction to the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court of Virginia.

(d) ~~To represent indigent prisoners when a habeas corpus proceeding is brought by such prisoners.~~

(e) To submit such reports as required by the Commission.