

**Job Description as was for Legal Advocate for People with
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities who are Victims of Crime**

Not applicable (NA) indicates this will no longer be part of the new managed care system or not likely to be included in the newly created Adult Protective Services Intellectual Disabilities Specialist (IDS) position, which Carrie Pomije will fill

Legal Advocate (LA) position was created in 1999 as part of the intellectual developmental disabilities (IDD) system's response to Abuse and Neglect and was funded under a contract with the IDD system. LA was liaison between the IDD and criminal justice systems for adults and child victims of any crime, but especially sexual abuse

**Children will not be served by IDS position*

- Provided consultation to IDD providers on issues of sexual abuse, physical abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, and self neglect.
- Collaborated with other services such as RCC, DAIS, Safe Harbor, FNE
- Attended law enforcement and Safe Harbor interviews with victims, primarily to assist in effective communication with victim
- Attended Forensic Nurse Examiner exams with victims, when able, and consulted by phone
- As needed or requested, followed up with victim by meeting to answer questions, investigating trauma and psychotherapy resources, attending psychotherapy appointments and doing 1:1 sex education. Often provided transportation for victim
- Advocated for law enforcement and DA's Office to charge cases. In frequent contact with them.
- Apprised victim's support team and family of case status and upcoming hearings, if charged
- If charged, was in close contact with the Victim Witness Unit of the District Attorney's Office regarding the case
- Attended court hearings with and without victims and when requested, assisted Victim/Witness in prepping victim for testimony
- At various times attended CCRs for developmental disabilities, sexual assault, domestic violence, elder abuse, and FAST, SART and Legal Issues Subcommittee
- Assisted individuals or family members in procuring domestic, harassment or Individual at Risk temporary restraining orders and injunctions.
- Did sexual assault investigations for people with DD through Adult Protective Services Adults at Risk and worked to get them involved in available services.

**These pieces will be included in the IDS position*

- Trained Madison Police Recruits every year at the MPD Academy. Focus was to learn to identify and communicate effectively with people who have IDD.

**IDS position may include*

Other roles of LA:

- Wrote and updated the Abuse and Neglect Policy and organized and ran yearly **Fact-Finder** meeting. *Fact-Finders are not part of new system*
- Did **Fact-Finding** for agencies particularly when involves possible sexual abuse. Able to consults on any Fact-Finding. *NA*
- Organized **Family Meetings** when there is abuse by a family member towards a person supported in IDD system. *NA*
- Wrote **Reporter Plans** for people who have a *proven* history of falsely reporting abuse. Gives specific ways to respond to these allegations. *NA*
- Wrote **Police Safety Plans** for people who have either been involved with police or are anticipated to come in contact with police. *Community TIES Program will do*
- Taught 1:1 **sexuality, boundary, and protective behavior training** with children and adults. *NA – great need*
- Regularly trained direct service providers in **Power and Control** and also individual agencies. Focus was to help direct caregivers learn effective, respectful communication towards people they support. *No one to replace this piece – great need*