

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDER

MANOHAR RAJU – PUBLIC DEFENDER
MATT GONZALEZ – CHIEF ATTORNEY



July 17, 2026

Paul Redd Freedom Fellowship

Hours: Full-time or part-time (at least 25 hours weekly), depending on the right candidate; hybrid, San Francisco.

Pay: \$30-\$35 hourly, depending on experience and qualifications.

This is a grant position, which has been funded up to June 2028.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis. Send resume and concise cover letter to danielle.harris@sfgov.org with subject line: Paul Redd Freedom Fellowship application. In your cover letter, tell us why you want the job and why you think you'll be good at it.

The Public Defender provides legal representation to persons with San Francisco criminal court matters without financial means to retain counsel. We serve approximately 20,000 people yearly, over 70% of whom are Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color (BIPOC).

The Freedom Project (TFP) within the Public Defender's office is dedicated to decarceration, successful reentry, and post-conviction systemic change. In six years, TFP has helped free 109 people from California prisons, through discretionary resentencing (PC 1172.1), resentencing of minors convicted as adults (PC 1170(d)/Heard), murder resentencing (PC 1172.6), RJA petitions (PC 745/1473), and parole hearings. We helped draft and pass legislation that significantly strengthened second look resentencing laws and provided a new avenue through judicial-initiated resentencing. The vast majority of TFP clients are elders and/or youth offenders.

Paul Redd was our team's first resentencing client to come home from a life sentence. Against all odds and incredible obstacles, Paul never stopped fighting for his own freedom, helped so many others in their individual freedom quests, and was a movement leader to improve prison conditions. The ideal fellowship candidate will exemplify the tenacity, grit, and empathy that Paul embodied so fully. To learn more about Paul, watch the Adachi Project short film [here](#).

Job Description

The Paul Redd Freedom Fellow will gather, organize, and summarize necessary records and track data to assist attorneys and social workers handling resentencing, lifer parole hearings, and habeas petitions. The fellow will use advanced organizational skills to manage incoming applications, request records from courts and prisons, review and summarize lengthy records, assist with research and writing projects, maintain digital files, and help facilitate Peer Groups. The fellow may be required to travel to prison facilities and communicate with clients by mail or

Adult Division - HOJ
555 Seventh Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
P: 415.553.1671
F: 415.553.9810
www.sfpublicdefender.org

Juvenile Division - YGC
375 Woodside Avenue, Rm. 118
San Francisco, CA 94127
P: 415.753.7601
F: 415.566.3030

Juvenile Division - JJC
258A Laguna Honda Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94116
P: 415.753.8174
F: 415.753.8175

Clean Slate
P: 415.553.9337
www.sfpublicdefender.org/services

Community Justice Center
P: 415.202.2832
F: 415.563.8506

Bayview Magic
P: 415.558.2428
www.bayviewmagic.org

MoMagic
P: 415.567.0400
www.momagic.org

messaging apps, along with client loved ones, requiring a strong ability to communicate and interact with all people. Superior written and oral communication skills are also needed to interact with the Freedom Project team -- three attorneys, two social workers, and one legal assistant -- along with other units of the office (e.g., Clean Slate and Immigration) and other agencies like the Department of Corrections, Superior Court, and District Attorney. The right candidate will have a demonstrated ability to work independently and with a collaborative team.

Qualifications

Desired educational background:

Substantial lived experience in the criminal legal system, individually or through a loved one

OR

Completion of a Bachelor's (BA, BS) degree from an accredited college or university

OR

Possession of an associate (AA) degree from an accredited college or university AND six (6) months of law-related work experience

OR

Two (2) years of paralegal or law-related work experience under the direct supervision of an attorney

Desired Qualifications:

- Experience in reviewing, sorting, and summarizing voluminous records
- Experience using Excel spreadsheets
- Knowledge of law around CA resentencing, parole, and the RJA
- Knowledge of CDCR policies and practices