



## RECRUITMENT FAIR PANEL DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Panel Discussion: The Role of the Prosecutor and the Prosecution Profession

[Day, Month, Year] | [Time]

[Venue Address]

#### Prior to the start, remind the panelists of the following:

- For virtual panelists, log in 15 minutes prior to the start of the panel to ensure a proper connection for video and audio.
- For the first question, each panelist should give a brief overview of their jurisdiction, i.e., population size, urban/rural/mixed, number of attorneys, and an interesting characteristic of your jurisdiction.
- Remember to be mindful of the response time to each question to ensure as many questions are covered.

#### Panel Discussion Questions:

1. Can you identify any aspects of the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system that you believe need changes? Are you or your office working on any initiatives to improve these aspects?
2. How does your office incorporate restorative justice principles in case resolutions?
3. What does justice mean to you and how does your office strive to achieve it?
4. Can you share your thoughts on defense attorneys and the defense bar?
5. What is the most challenging aspect of being a prosecutor?
6. What is the most rewarding aspect of being a prosecutor?
7. How do you balance your personal life with your demanding professional life?
8. Can you speak to the role prosecutors play in community outreach?
9. How can prosecutors contribute to crime prevention?
10. Can you describe the relationship between prosecutors and law enforcement?
11. Can you describe the relationship between prosecutors and defense attorneys?
12. What strategies do you use to ascertain the truth from witnesses or police officers during a case?
13. Do you believe there are ethnic, racial, and economic disparities in the criminal justice system?
14. Prosecutors are often described as the voice of victims of crime, both inside and outside of the courtroom. Can you describe the interaction between prosecutors and victims?
15. Have there been significant impacts on the role of the prosecutor and your office's day-to-day functions due to unforeseen circumstances such as a pandemic?
16. Public service jobs are often described as underpaid and overwhelming—is that the case with prosecutors, and how do you balance that when considering a profession in public service versus practicing law at a private firm?
17. Can you discuss the importance of wellbeing and mental health support within your office?
18. Are there opportunities for professional development as a prosecutor to move up within an office?
19. Can you share some of the activities you and your staff participate in outside of the prosecutor's office?
20. Which aspect of prosecuting do you believe has the most impact?
21. Can you share an example of a difficult case that didn't go as planned, and what you learned from it?
22. Has there been a case that had a significant impact on you professionally or personally?
23. How do you maintain emotional distance from your cases to remain objective?
24. Do prosecutors' offices typically offer internships, and what do these look like in terms of hands-on learning?