

Diana Matsuda: *It's a lot of hands on work, for me. And that's very satisfying knowing that that work results in a good outcome for the case.*

My name is Diana Matsuda, I'm a paralegal. I've been in the criminal defense since 1998. I started out looking for a job as a journalist, because that's my major from CSU. Could not find a job besides somewhere out on the eastern plains, so I decided to go to paralegal school in 1991. And graduated from there, from the Denver Paralegal Institute and went from there.

It's a challenging job, it's different almost every day, especially with a criminal defense practice. With a criminal defense practice there's a lot of client contact which I enjoy. And it's a very exciting field to be in.

I enjoy a lot of the investigative part of the job as far as making phone calls, trying to find answers, different agencies, different courts. Just trying to find an answer. A lot of people seem to think it's more of a secretarial position, in some ways it is, but in a lot of ways, I think you have to be lot more resourceful. You have to think outside of the box a lot of times. And you just have to know the legal procedures very well.