

## **THE POSITION:**

The Federal Public Defender for the District of Connecticut is hiring an Assistant Federal Defender to be based in its New Haven, Connecticut office. The federal defender organization operates under the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. §3006A, to provide criminal defense and related help in federal courts.

**Job Description/Qualifications:** This position is for a licensed attorney with three years minimum criminal trial experience preferred. Other equally relevant experience will be considered. Successful applicants must have a commitment to the representation of indigent, disenfranchised and underserved individuals and communities. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: managing an extensive caseload, developing litigation strategies, preparing pleadings, appearing in court at all stages of litigation (including appeals), and meeting with clients, experts, witnesses, family members and others. Applicants must possess strong oral and written advocacy skills, have the ability to build and maintain meaningful attorney-client relationships, be team oriented but function independently in a busy office setting, and communicate effectively with clients, witnesses, colleagues, staff, the court and other agency personnel. Spanish language proficiency is preferred. Travel is required (training, investigation, and other case-related travel).

**Requirements:** Applicants must be graduates of an accredited law school and admitted to practice in good standing before the highest court of a state. Applicants must be eligible to work for the United States.

**Salary and Benefits:** This position is full time with a comprehensive benefits package that includes: health and life insurance, vision and dental benefits, flexible spending accounts, paid time off, sick leave, leave for all federal holidays, participation in the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and participation in the Thrift Savings Plan with up to 5% government matching contributions. Salary is dependent upon qualifications and experience, and is equivalent to salaries of Assistant U.S. Attorneys with similar qualifications and experience. Salary is payable only by electronic funds transfer (direct deposit).

**Conditions of Employment:** Appointment to the position is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check and/or investigation including an FBI name and fingerprint check. Employees of the Federal Public Defender are members of the judicial branch of government and are considered "at will." You must be a U.S. citizen or person authorized to work in the United States and receive compensation as a federal employee. All employees must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 and provide proof of such prior to entrance on duty. Employees will be required to stay up-to-date and comply with the current and ongoing recommendations by the CDC and/or Connecticut Department of Public Health regarding Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters.

## **WHAT WE DO:**

The Federal Defender Office is a law office that provides legal representation to persons charged with committing federal crimes who cannot afford to hire a private attorney. We represent the accused from arrest through trial and appeal, including the U.S. Supreme Court and federal habeas corpus review.

We are attorneys, paralegals, investigators, mitigation specialists, office administrators, and information technology specialists. We work together to uphold every person's right to be presumed innocent, to have a fair trial, and to have a fair sentence, if convicted. Our defense is vigorous, both at trial and on appeal. We advocate for humane sentences by showing judges and prosecutors that we represent people, not criminals.

## **WHO WE ARE:**

We are committed to cultivating a culture of acceptance and connectedness that honors the diverse backgrounds of the people we represent.

We value diversity and a commitment to equality, and we believe better legal representation occurs when members of the defense team have diverse backgrounds and experiences. In recruiting members of our team, we welcome the full spectrum of humanity. We embrace the unique contributions that you can bring, including your culture, ethnicity, education, opinions, race, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, nation of origin, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, religion, disability, and economic status.

## **WHO YOU ARE:**

You are a trusted and reliable team member who values professionalism and who consistently uses sound judgment to carry out responsibilities. You partner with other members of our defense teams, keep confidences, and are comfortable acting both independently and as a member of a team so the office can give exceptional legal services to the people we represent. You not only see the problems, but also the solutions, and you harness creativity, dedication, and persistence to overcome the challenges. You interact with others with empathy and understanding while maintaining high standards.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

**Application Information:** In one PDF document, please submit a statement of interest and resume describing your trial and appellate work, with three references to:

Terence S. Ward, Federal Public Defender

Terence\_Ward@fd.org

Reference 2022 AFPD in the subject.

Applications must be received by July 5, 2022. Writing samples will be required only from those selected for interview. Position(s) will remain open until filled and is subject to the availability of funding.

The Federal Public Defender is an equal opportunity employer. We seek to hire individuals who will promote the diversity of the office and federal practice.

No phone calls please. Submissions not following this format will not be considered.  
Only those selected for interview will be contacted.