

**ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
PANAMA CITY OFFICE**

We are accepting applications for the full-time position of assistant federal public defender in our Panama City office. The federal defender organization operates under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, to provide defense services in federal criminal cases and related matters by appointment from the court.

REQUIREMENTS: (1) a graduate of an accredited law school and admitted to practice in good standing before the highest court of a state, (2) licensed to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals prior to beginning work, and (3) at least three years of trial experience. Membership in The Florida Bar is not required, but is an advantage and will be encouraged upon employment. Appointment is subject to a fingerprint and background check. Applicants should be aware that the appointment is subject to final confirmation that the necessary funding is available.

DUTIES: The assistant federal public defender will represent clients at the trial level in the District Court.

SELECTION CRITERIA: The ability to conduct effective legal research, to write clearly and convincingly, to establish rapport with even difficult clients, and the persistence to thoroughly investigate issues pertaining to guilt or innocence or sentencing are essential. Experience in handling federal criminal cases is an advantage, as is appellate experience. The successful applicant will have a reputation for personal integrity and the maturity and skill to cordially and professionally interact with others in the court system. The ideal applicant will have between five and ten years of legal experience. In the end, though, talent and commitment to criminal defense are the traits that are the most important, so those with more or less experience will also be considered.

UNCERTAINTY: While there is no question about filling the position, there is uncertainty about where the position will be based. For now, it is in Panama City, but there are plans to close the Panama City Courthouse at the end of 2018. Though it is possible that the Courthouse will remain open another year and even a possibility that court sessions could be held in Panama City for the foreseeable future, the greater likelihood is that Panama City cases will be heard in Pensacola or even Tallahassee. If and when that happens, the position will be transferred to wherever the cases are being heard.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: The starting salary is dependent upon experience. The position is in the excepted service and does not carry the tenure rights of the competitive Civil Service. The position does include regular Government employment benefits, including health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan.

HOW TO APPLY: Qualified persons may apply by sending a resume and a representative writing sample. References are optional at this point, though finalists for the position will ultimately need to provide three references. You should describe your legal experience in some detail. Send the application via email in .pdf format to [Faye Wayland@fd.org](mailto:Faye_Wayland@fd.org). If you have already applied for our Pensacola position and would like to be considered for the Panama City position, just send an email to that effect to Ms. Wayland.

DEADLINE: Applications should be submitted by **June 1, 2017**.

The Federal Public Defender is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Vacancy Announcement 2017-3