

**OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER – CAPITAL HABEAS UNIT

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida is accepting applications for an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Capital Habeas Unit, located in Tallahassee, Florida. The CHU represents death-sentenced prisoners in federal habeas corpus proceedings. This position is for an experienced capital habeas lawyer who is interested in working on federal capital habeas cases.

CHU Values: We value serving our clients through skilled collaboration, compassionate advocacy, and creativity. We value having a staff that reflects the community we are serving and encourage people from diverse backgrounds to apply. We value working with individuals who demonstrate resiliency, initiative, creativity, and enthusiasm.

Description: Assistant Federal Public Defenders serve as lead attorneys and supervise a team of investigators, mitigations specialists, paralegals, and legal assistants. Responsibilities include working with clients, analyzing large case files and investigative materials; developing litigation strategies; conducting legal research; drafting motions, petitions and briefs; working with experts and other witnesses; and presenting evidence and argument in court proceedings.

Qualifications: Applicants should have at least three years of capital habeas experience and demonstrable skill in written and oral advocacy. Applicants must possess excellent legal research and writing skills and a strong work ethic. Bar admission and good standing in a state bar, including the District of Columbia, are required. Familiarity with Florida capital postconviction is valued.

Maturity, good judgment, and the ability to treat others with respect in times of high stress are necessary for this position. Empathy and dedication to the cause of our clients are essential traits.

The willingness to engage in overnight travel and work long and non-traditional hours is required, as is a valid driver's license.

Application Process: To apply for an Assistant Federal Public Defender, applicants should email a cover letter, resume, two writing samples, and three references (in .pdf format) to FLN_Resumes@fd.org. This is not a remote/telework position. Employment is conditioned upon a favorable background check. Salary will be based on experience, consistent with federal rules and regulations. Position is open until filled.

Questions: If you have any questions, please feel free to email Linda McDermott, Chief, Capital Habeas Unit (linda_mcdermott@fd.org)

The position is subject to approval of funding. Multiple positions may be hired from this posting.

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from minority groups are encouraged to apply. To be eligible for hiring, an applicant must be a U.S. Citizen or a lawful permanent resident, who is eligible to work in the U.S. and

is either currently seeking U.S. Citizenship or intends to become a U.S. Citizen when eligible, or must otherwise meet the citizenship requirements for employment. *See* <https://www.uscourts.gov/careers/search-judiciary-jobs/citizenship-requirements-employment-judiciary>.

The Office of the Federal Public Defender provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and interviewing process, please notify the local human resources representative. The decision on granting reasonable accommodations will be made on a case by case basis.