

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
Henry A. Martin

Vacancy Announcement No. 2022-02

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Position: Assistant Federal Public Defender – Trial Unit
Location: Nashville, Tennessee
Application Deadline: Open Until Filled,
with preference given to those applying by September 16, 2022.

The Federal Public Defender for the Middle District of Tennessee is accepting applications for a full-time Assistant Federal Public Defender in the trial unit. The Office of the Federal Public Defender operates under authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, to provide representation in federal criminal matters in the federal courts. Our attorneys are zealous advocates, devoted to the defense of the indigent and enforcing the Bill of Rights.

Job Description: An Assistant Federal Public Defender provides legal representation to clients charged with federal criminal offenses before federal magistrate and district courts in the Middle District of Tennessee, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and Supreme Court of the United States.



The typical caseload involves defending people charged with federal crimes ranging from possession of guns and drugs, immigration offenses, fraud, complex white collar fraud cases, and terrorism. Responsibilities include managing a caseload, preparing pleadings, motions and briefs, reviewing discovery documents, interviewing witnesses, developing litigation strategies, meeting with clients, working with experts, assisting Criminal Justice Act panel attorneys, and appearing on behalf of clients in federal court.

The Federal Public Defender's Office is committed to improving diversity in the legal profession. It is critical to our clients' representation that the office be comprised of individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds. The nature of our work leads us to invest in recruiting colleagues who demonstrate experience with, knowledge of, and sensitivity to the needs of culturally diverse and oppressed populations. We seek candidates with a demonstrated commitment to working with marginalized communities and with clients from a range of backgrounds.

Skilled collaboration, strategic litigation, and compassionate representation are among the values we aim to foster in our office. Because no single person can do this work alone, you will work with experienced lawyers, investigators, paralegals and legal assistants. The ability to work well with a team is mandatory.

Requirements and Qualifications: The Assistant Federal Public Defender must be: 1) a law school graduate; 2) admitted to practice in good standing (or be eligible to be admitted) before the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. Additionally, all Assistant Federal Public Defenders are encouraged to become admitted to practice before the Tennessee state courts.

Qualified candidates must have an aptitude for trial practice and superior analytical ability and at least two years of trial experience. The successful applicant will have excellent interpersonal skills, good judgment, the ability to prioritize and to work both independently and cooperatively. Federal criminal legal experience is preferred, but not required. Applicants must have strong writing and advocacy skills; an established capacity or demonstrated aptitude for excellence in criminal defense; a sterling reputation for personal and professional integrity; a commitment to the representation of indigent people; and an ability to work well in a team environment. Applicants 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.

Salary and Benefits: The position is full-time with federal benefits and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications and comparable to that of Assistant U.S. Attorneys with similar qualifications and experience. The position is excepted service and does not carry the tenure rights of the competitive Civil Service; employment is at will. Benefits include health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by direct deposit. For information regarding benefits, see www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits. Final offer of employment is subject to an FBI background check.

Application Process: Applications submitted by fax or mail will not be considered. No phone calls, please. More than one AFD position may be filled from this posting. To apply, combine the following documents in a **single** Adobe PDF and email to TNM_HR@fd.org with the subject line "**AFPD**":

- a brief cover letter explaining your interest in the position and your qualifications;
- a resume;
- three references including contact information; and
- a representative writing sample.

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Middle District of Tennessee is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All applicants, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or age, are encouraged to apply.

