
FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

NOTICE OF POSITION VACANCY



Truth and Justice
The American Way

Announcement No:	2010-01	Date:	October 28, 2009
No. of Vacancies:	One		Federal Public Defender
Position Title:	Assistant Federal Public Defender (One Year Term)		District of Nebraska 222 South 15 th Street, Suite 300N Omaha, NE 68102
Salary:	Commensurate with Experience		http://ne.fd.org
Closing Date:	November 30, 2009		

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Assistant Federal Defender (AFD) provides every aspect of legal representation to individuals charged with federal criminal offenses but who are unable to retain an attorney. Duties include trials and court hearings, direct appeals to the circuit court, habeas, post conviction and witness representation, and representation in other matters such as supervised release hearings and probation and parole hearings. This is a year plus a day term.

POSITION DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The AFD will perform the following duties:

- Provides zealous, professional legal representation to his/her clients. Appears, on behalf of the client, in court hearings and at other related proceedings.
- Communicates with the court, opposing counsel, probation officers, witnesses, clients and the families of clients concerning case-related issues.
- Maintains in-depth and updated knowledge of criminal defense trial and appellate practices and case law. Develops expertise with the federal sentencing guidelines, understands the ethical obligations and restrictions and practices courtroom advocacy. Pursues all appropriate available training opportunities including local or nationally sponsored training.
- Prepares motions and briefs for consideration in federal magistrate, district, and appellate courts. Also prepares petitions for certiorari.
- Prepares legal memoranda, review of issues, comprehensive statements of relevant facts, standards of review and briefs complex legal and factual arguments. Consults with investigative and legal staff regarding issues relevant to the case.
- Performs legal research utilizing all available resources including computer-assisted legal research tools. Research includes state and federal statutes, case law, regulations, precedents, treaties, sentencing guidelines, and related subject matter. Analyzes legal decisions, opinions, rulings, memoranda and related legal materials. Compiles and summarizes substantive information on statutes, treaties and specific legal subjects.
- Updates research and prepares for oral argument. Prioritizes issues, analyzes difficulties of the case and prepares responses to possible panel questions.
- Continues development of strong written and verbal communication skills to enhance professional documentation and interpersonal interaction.

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for the position of AFD, a person must have progressive responsible experience as a lawyer in the functional areas described in the Position Duties and Responsibilities section above. Such specialized experience provides the individual: the ability to coordinate the work of others; a comprehensive knowledge of legal principles, practices, methods and techniques; the ability to identify and evaluate pertinent facts and regulations, policies and precedents; skill and judgement in the analysis of cases and legal opinions; an keen understanding of criminal law, criminal procedure, and evidence; experience performing progressively responsible duties as a lawyer; and the skills and ability to execute the duties of the position. The successful candidate must possess excellent written and oral communication skills and have demonstrated high integrity. The ideal candidate must be able to make critical decisions independently and perform the duties of the position with minimal supervision. The ability to provide excellent customer service, handle multiple projects efficiently, and to utilize technology to enhance effectiveness is essential.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Federal Public Defender offers a full benefits package that allows an employee to participate in the following pursuant to the written terms of these benefit packages:

- Choice of Medical, Fee for Service and/or Health Maintenance Organizations, some plans with dental and vision benefits attachments.
- Group Life Insurance; employee and family coverage available.
- Disability Insurance.
- Immediate participation in the Thrift Savings Plan (401K plan.)
- Federal Employees Retirement System.
- 13 days of accrued vacation leave per year
- 13 days of accrued sick leave per year.
- Federal holidays.
- Flexible spending accounts for healthcare, child dependant care, and commuter programs.

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS

The successful candidate will be subject to a background and fingerprint check as a condition of employment. The Federal Public Defender requires employees to adhere to a Code of Conduct which is available upon request. Equal opportunity employer, women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Direct deposit is required for payment of compensation for employees. Interested applicants should send a resume, cover letter, and list of three references to William C. Sweet, 222 S. 15th Street, Suite 300N, Omaha NE 68102. Application deadline is November 30, 2009. Please, no telephone inquiries.