

Office of the
Federal Public Defender
Western District of Pennsylvania
1001 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1500
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

VACANCY #:	2022-06-AFPD
ANNOUNCED:	June 2, 2022
CLOSES:	June 17, 2022, or when filled

The Federal Public Defender for the Western District of Pennsylvania is seeking a trial attorney to serve as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in its Pittsburgh office. The position primarily involves legal representation of indigent persons accused of federal crimes in the United States District Court. Travel to the Erie or Johnstown branch of may be required.

Responsibilities include managing a caseload with cases at varying stages of litigation; preparing pleadings, briefs and motions; appearing on behalf of the client in court hearings and at other related proceedings; developing litigation strategies; meeting with clients, experts, witnesses and family members, and other duties as assigned. A large part of the caseload involves drug offenses, fraud, robbery, firearms offenses, and internet-related crimes.

Ideal Candidate. We are looking for someone who is committed to equal justice and willing to fight vigorously for those accused of crimes. We are seeking a candidate with a demonstrable ability to communicate with people of many different backgrounds, an unflagging refusal to give up in difficult circumstances, strong research and writing skills, the ability to work both independently and collaboratively, and a reputation for personal and professional integrity. An active commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism is expected. Spanish-language proficiency is desirable but not mandatory.

Requirements and Qualifications. The successful applicant must be a graduate from an accredited law school with a minimum two years' legal experience. Courtroom experience, as well as excellent research, writing and oral advocacy skills, are required, as is a demonstrated commitment to indigent defense. The applicant should be prepared to immediately undertake the representation of clients in serious criminal cases and be able to manage a heavy caseload. Travel and working outside regular business hours are essential for the position, as are effective organizational skills and the ability to work in a team environment. Federal Public Defender attorneys may not engage in the private practice of law.

Salary/Benefits. This position is full-time with salary commensurate with years of experience. It is also subject to mandatory direct deposit of net pay. The successful candidate will be subject to a general background check and IRS tax check procedure as a condition of employment. Federal employment benefits include a generous holiday and vacation package, federal pension plan with optional employer-matching Thrift Savings Plan, federal health and life insurance programs with an employer contribution, and flexible spending accounts.

Application Information. Qualified applicants should apply by submitting a letter of interest, a current and detailed resume, and a writing sample **in one Adobe Acrobat document** to paw_employment@fd.org using the subject line "2022-06."

This Office is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

One or more positions may be filled from this announcement.

Hiring for this position is dependent upon availability of funding.

Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

No telephone calls, please.