







TRIAL TEAM LEADER AND ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER \$74,234 - \$162,112

Plus Excellent Benefits

Apply by November 25, 2022 (First Review, Open Until Filled)



FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER – NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO + TRIAL ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

WHY APPLY?

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Ohio serves the northern 40 counties of the state along the coast of Lake Erie, from Pennsylvania to Indiana, providing free legal defense to those who cannot afford it on their own. Currently we have offices in Cleveland, Akron, and Toledo. But we are



opening a brand-new office in Youngstown, Ohio! The selected candidate will head up a small team in a remote location where dependability, initiative, and integrity will be the watchwords! If you are an attorney interested in making your mark on a new office, who loves the courtroom, is good on your feet, has a heart for public service, and who shares our belief that no one should be defined by their worst day, this job is for you! While we are specifically looking for a Trial Team Leader, multiple positions may be filled with this advertisement. Anyone interested in public defense should therefore apply now!

WHAT WE DO

We zealously represent and defend indigent citizens in order to preserve, protect and defend the principle of equal justice for all. In accordance with the Criminal Justice Act we represent individuals in federal criminal cases or under federal criminal investigation who are financially unable to retain counsel.





WHO WE ARE

We are attorneys, paralegals, investigators, office administrators, information technology and litigation support specialists, and legal assistants, dedicated to defending our fellow citizens by providing them with legal counsel. We are zealous advocates for our clients, providing independent trial defense services free from outside influence. We represent every client within the guidelines of the law, consistent with our professional ethics, and in accordance with all applicable rules of practice. We work together as a team of legal professionals to uphold every person's right to be presumed innocent, and when required to a fair sentence. Our defense is vigorous at trial, sentencing, and on appeal. We advocate for humane sentences by showing judges and prosecutors that we represent people, not criminals.

We are committed to cultivating a culture of acceptance and connectedness that honors the diverse backgrounds of the people we represent. We value diversity and believe better legal representation occurs when members of the defense team have diverse backgrounds and experiences. We seek out and embrace the unique contributions that you can bring, including your culture, ethnicity, education, opinions, race, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, nation of origin, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, religion, disability, and economic status.



WHO YOU ARE

You have graduated from an accredited law school, are a pending admission to or are a member in good standing of any state bar, are pending admission to or are a member of the Ohio Bar or are willing to pursue admission to the Ohio Bar, and are willing to obtain admission to practice before the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States. A minimum of 3-years criminal litigation and/or appellate experience is preferred. Federal court experience is desirable.

You are an individual with demonstrated potential for leading a small team in a remote location. You are trustworthy and reliable with good judgment and initiative. You can operate in a complex environment with minimal guidance to achieve expected results. As a trial attorney you have a demonstrated commitment to working with marginalized communities and with clients from a range of backgrounds. You put the client first while standing on your values, your personal and professional ethics, and your professionalism. You use sound judgment to carry out your responsibilities. You appreciate the importance of diversity. You always partner with other members of the office, seek out the opinions of your colleagues, and love to work as a team. You are candid in your advice, but respectful of others. You don't just recognize problems but identify solutions. You harness your creativity, legal acumen, and writing skills to overcome difficult problem sets. Above all, you maintain your high standards while treating our clients and your co-workers with empathy and understanding.

RESPONSIBILITIES

If selected as Trial Team Leader, you will initially begin your work in our Cleveland Office. While in Cleveland you will have the opportunity to work collaboratively with our team of Assistant Federal Public Defenders, Research and Writing Attorneys, Investigators, and Paralegals, and to become integrated into our team. We currently anticipate opening our new branch office in Youngstown, Ohio in the fall of 2023, whereupon the person selected as Trial Team Leader will move to that location with their team. Because this position is being advertised internally and externally. selection of an internal candidate may create a vacancy as a line Assistant Federal Public Defender. If that occurs, we will select that person from among the applicants to this advertisement, so anyone interested in public defense and meeting our qualifications should apply! In general, the ideal candidate will demonstrate capability and qualifications in the following areas:

- > The initiative, judgement, and integrity to operate independently in a remote location.
- The ability to supervise, motivate, and train a small team of attorneys and support staff.
- Show strong trial skills, research and writing skills, and oral communication skills necessary to supervise, manage, and engage in difficult, complex, trial, and appellate work and litigation.
- Demonstrate good interoffice communication skills and the ability to maintain a friendly, open, demeanor during periods of increased work tempo.
- The ability to immediately handle a substantial case load.
- The ability to research and draft trial court and appellate briefs, including briefs and oral argument in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States.
- The legal acumen necessary to identify and develop legal defenses, claims and sentencing strategies.
- Have a strong commitment to addressing the ongoing and underlying disparate treatment of people of color and marginalized communities within the criminal legal system
- > Serving as a resource to CJA panel attorneys.



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COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

- > \$74,234 \$162,112
- Health & Life Insurance
- FERS Retirement
- Social Security
- Thrift Savings Plan
- > Transit Subsidy Voucher
- Paid Parking
- 12 Federal Holidays
- Annual Leave and Sick Leave

How TO APPLY

All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by **November 25, 2022** (first review, open until filled multiple vacancies may be filled by this advertisement). Applications, supplemental questions, resumes and cover letters will only be accepted electronically. Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. To apply send a <u>single</u> Adobe .pdf document via email which includes a letter of interest, your resume, a completed AO78 Application for Judicial Employment, three (3) references, and a recent writing sample, limited to 10 pages, to: ohn_employment@fd.org, subject line: "2023-01 Trial Assistant Federal Public Defender".

This is an exciting opportunity for anyone interested in a challenging and rewarding career in public defense! Come join our team! Apply now!





FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

Employees are considered at-will and are not covered by the Civil Service Reform Act. The position offers responsibility, independence, dynamic teamwork, and generous federal benefits. The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Employment is provisional pending the successful completion of a required background check. You must be a United States citizen or eligible to work in the United States. You must possess a valid driver's license. Travel by a personal vehicle may be required. This position precludes the private practice of law.