

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
Districts of South Dakota and North Dakota
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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Federal Public Defender for the Districts of South Dakota and North Dakota seeks an attorney to join our branch office in Bismarck, North Dakota. Our office provides high-quality representation to people charged with federal crimes who cannot afford to hire an attorney. We operate under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act.

Position Description: Assistant Federal Public Defenders zealously and professionally represent clients in a fast-paced, challenging, diverse, and rewarding work environment. Responsibilities include managing a caseload; working with clients; interviewing witnesses and family members; developing release plans; reviewing discovery; preparing pleadings, motions, and briefs; developing litigation strategies; working with experts; advising CJA panel attorneys; and in-court litigation through all stages of a criminal case. Some travel is necessary. Attorneys in our office may not engage in the private practice of law.

Qualifications: Required: (1) graduation from an accredited law school; (2) admission to practice in good standing before the highest court of a state or the District of Columbia; (3) admission to practice in the U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota by the time of entrance on duty; (4) willingness to become admitted to the North Dakota Bar within a year of beginning employment; (5) U.S. citizenship or work authorization; and (6) a valid driver's license and means to travel as required.

Above all we are looking for applicants with a demonstrated commitment to indigent defense and an ability to work well in a team environment. We value court experience, creativity, and research and writing skills. We are willing to train the right candidate and will consider attorneys who have recently completed judicial clerkships or fellowships.

Salary and Benefits: The salary range is commensurate with experience. The position is full-time with federal benefits, including health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by direct deposit. A final offer of employment is subject to a background check.

How to Apply: Apply by emailing a letter of interest, resume, three references, and a recent writing sample in a single pdf document to **NDX_JOBS@fd.org**. Open until filled; priority consideration given to applications received by January 31, 2021.

The Federal Public Defender for the Districts of South Dakota and North Dakota is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Email: NDX_JOBS@fd.org

Vacancy Announcement: December 30, 2020