

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE DETAIL

The Federal Defender program seeks a detailee for the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C. The attorney detailed to the Committee performs a variety of tasks and responsibilities relating to the federal criminal justice system and other related issues pending before the Committee. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: (1) legal research related to the federal criminal justice system, including analysis of statutes, proposed legislation, case law, and governmental and other reports; (2) preparation of legal memoranda and analyses of pending legislation and amendments; and (3) providing assistance to senators and their staff in preparation for Committee hearings and business meetings.

The detail benefits FDOs by providing an in-depth view of the congressional process and exposure to the interplay between the various institutional players in the development of criminal justice legislation. In addition, the detail enhances communication and expands the working relationship between Congress and the federal defender community by providing expert advice from line AFPDs from across the country. Experienced assistant federal defenders are encouraged to apply. Applicants must possess excellent oral and written communication skills. An ability to express, orally and in writing, complex legal issues in clear and succinct language so that the concepts are understood by both lawyers and non-lawyers is essential. Applicants also must demonstrate the capacity to work effectively with others. Prior to applying to the program, applicants must obtain the approval of their federal defender.

The person selected for this temporary duty assignment will continue to be an employee of their respective FDOs, which will continue to pay all salary and benefits. In addition to the regular salary, however, the detailee will receive a stipend for both housing in Washington and per diem while on the temporary assignment. A certain number of round-trips home will also be provided.

For information regarding the application process or for any other questions concerning this position, please contact: David Patton (Executive Director, Federal Defenders of New York) at david_patton@fd.org and Jon Sands (Federal Defender, District of Arizona) at jon_sands@fd.org.