

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
321 EAST 2nd STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-4202

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Vacancy Announcement

Position: Trial Attorney - Immigration Specialist

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Deadline: September 28, 2018

The Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California is accepting applications for a full-time attorney with expertise and experience in immigration in our trial unit stationed in Los Angeles, California. The trial unit is committed to the pursuit of justice by aggressively advocating in federal court for the constitutional rights and inherent dignity of individuals who are accused or convicted of crimes and cannot afford their own lawyer.

Job Duties: Duties will include assisting trial attorneys in developing motion and trial strategy in immigration-related criminal cases, particularly illegal reentry cases, advising attorneys regarding the immigration consequences of plea agreements, assisting in developing arguments regarding immigration and other categorical analysis sentencing issues, training attorneys on developments in criminal-immigration law, and assisting with immigration detention related habeas issues. The attorney will also be expected to carry a partial caseload, including both immigration-related and non-immigration-related cases, and appear in the district and appellate courts, as required by the needs of the office.

Requirements: All applicants must have graduated from an accredited law school and be members in good standing of the California Bar or must be willing to sit for the next California Bar exam. Preference will be given to applicants with at least three years of experience in immigration or criminal-immigration law. The ability to speak, read, and write in Spanish is preferred. Applicants must have United States citizenship or have a permanent resident status and in the process of seeking citizenship.

Selection Criteria: Candidates must have a demonstrated commitment to indigent criminal defense, immigration and refugee advocacy, and/or public interest law; must have superior oral and written communication skills; possess excellent research skills; strong skills in complex fact and legal analysis and creative issue development; and work well in teams. A background investigation is required as a condition of employment.

Salary/Benefits: This is a full-time, at-will position. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience and is subject to direct deposit. Benefits include health and life insurance, retirement, and a Thrift Savings Plan. For more information on benefits, see <http://www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits>.

How to Apply: Apply by emailing a letter of interest, résumé, two representative writing samples (limited to 15 pages), and three references in a single PDF document ADDRESSED to Hilary Potashner, Federal Public Defender, at Employment@fpdcdca.org with the subject line: TRIAL ATTORNEY-IMMIGRATION SPECIALIST APPLICATION. All application materials must be received by September 28, 2018. The Federal Public Defender's Office may fill current and future positions from this vacancy announcement. Please, no phone calls.

The Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All applicants, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or age, are encouraged to apply.