



Office of the Federal Public Defender Districts of Colorado and Wyoming

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“Equal rights, fair play, justice, are all like the air: we all have it, or none of us has it.” – Maya Angelou

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT **ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER – COLORADO TRIAL DIVISION**

The Federal Public Defender for the Districts of Colorado and Wyoming seeks an experienced trial attorney to join our office in Denver. The Office of the Federal Public Defender operates under authority of the Criminal Justice Act (18 U.S.C. § 3006A) to represent individuals who are unable to afford counsel and prosecuted in our federal courts. Our office is committed to serving the distinct needs of our clients with a diverse group of dedicated individuals who collaborate with, listen to, and advocate on behalf of one another regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, disability, age, veteran status and other status protected by law.

Job Description: This is a full-time position, dedicated to all stages of the magistrate and district court proceedings. Our attorneys are expected to be zealous advocates of the highest caliber, devoted to the defense of the poor and enforcement of the Bill of Rights. There is extensive motions practice and courtroom litigation. Please note that Defender attorneys may not engage in the private practice of law.

Qualifications: Applicants must be 1) a graduate of an accredited law school; 2) licensed by the highest court of a state, federal territory, or the District of Columbia; 3) a member in good standing in all courts where admitted to practice; and 4) a United States citizen, or a person authorized to work in the United States and receive compensation from this agency.

Applicants must have at least five years of substantial experience in criminal defense. Substantial experience includes primary responsibility for jury trials in felony cases, previous work with scientific expert witnesses (including challenges and examinations), dispositive motions practice, sentencing mitigation, and management of voluminous discovery. A strong and established work ethic, a demonstrated commitment to criminal defense, a team-oriented professional demeanor, and a reputation for personal integrity are essential. Superior research and writing and oral advocacy skills are required. Extensive travel, largely within the District of Colorado, but also within the continental United States, is required.

Employment is subject to a satisfactory background investigation, including an FBI name and fingerprint check, and an IRS background check.

Salary and Benefits: This is an “Excepted Appointment” full-time position with federal benefits and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Benefits include health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by direct deposit.

How to Apply: Apply *via email* by submitting a letter of interest, resume, and writing sample that is your own work. **No phone calls please.**

Applications should be sent to: Kim W. Bechard, Administrative Officer, at employment@cofpd.org.

The Federal Public Defender is an equal opportunity employer.