

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
**Districts of South Dakota and North Dakota**

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*Federal Public Defender*

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**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

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:** By the time of entrance on duty the applicant must (1) have graduated from an accredited law school; (2) have been admitted to practice in good standing before the highest court of a state or the District of Columbia; (3) be eligible for admission to practice in the US District Court for the District of North Dakota by the time of entrance on duty; (4) be willing to become admitted to the North Dakota Bar within a year of beginning employment; and (5) have obtained US citizenship or work authorization.

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 a willingness to gain courtroom experience, creativity, and research and writing skills. We are flexible on start date and willing to train the right candidate.

**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 paid bi-weekly and only by direct deposit. A final offer of employment is subject to funding and 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](mailto:NDX_JOBS@fd.org). Position is open until filled with priority consideration prior to January 15, 2024. Position is subject to availability of funds.

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