The Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida is accepting applications for a full-time Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Capital Habeas Unit (CHU) in the Tallahassee Division of the Northern District of Florida with room for advancement to a supervisory position. The CHU represents death-sentenced prisoners in federal habeas corpus proceedings in the United States District Courts in Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

The CHU is committed to providing high-quality representation to our clients as well as maintaining manageable caseloads for staff. Skilled collaboration, strategic litigation and compassionate representation and unique approaches to the issues affecting our clients are among the qualities we are looking for in our ideal candidate.

The successful applicant must be a talented legal writer, possess excellent research skills, be team oriented and have a demonstrated commitment to indigent criminal defense and particularly, death penalty work. Florida warrant litigation is active and warrant experience is preferred. The Assistant Federal Public Defender will work directly with the CHU Chief and Federal Public Defender to monitor federal capital petitioners and their state court counsel, keep current on developments in Florida and federal capital habeas litigation, and be a liaison with CJA attorneys representing capital defendants in our district.

Applicants should have a minimum of five years of capital habeas experience, preferably in federal court. Starting salaries are commensurate with prior experience and include full federal benefits such as health and life insurance, retirement and Thrift Savings Plan options. A final offer of employment is subject to a background check. Proof of US citizenship or other employment eligibility is required.

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited law school and a member in good standing in the highest court of the state in which they are licensed. A Florida bar license is not required but is strongly preferred.

Qualified applicants may apply by electronically forwarding in PDF format a brief letter of interest, resume with experience described in detail, references, and a representative writing sample to FLN_Resumes@fd.org.

The Federal Public Defender is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. We provide equal opportunity for all qualified people who desire to use their skills and abilities in the workplace on behalf of our clients, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, national origin, religion or disability.

Vacancy Announcement 2019-5