

**FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEFENDER OFFICE  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

FEDERAL COURT DIVISION - DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA

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**LEIGH M. SKIPPER**  
CHIEF FEDERAL DEFENDER

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**HELEN A. MARINO**  
FIRST ASSISTANT FEDERAL DEFENDER

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ASSISTANT FEDERAL DEFENDER – CAPITAL HABEAS UNIT**  
**(At Least One Opening)**  
**Posting Code 500100-18**

The Federal Community Defender Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania has an opening for at least one Assistant Federal Defender in its Capital Habeas Unit (CHU). The CHU represents death-sentenced prisoners in all stages of federal habeas corpus proceedings. The Assistant Federal Defender is responsible to conduct investigations, prepare petitions, motions and briefs for the district and appellate courts, maintain contact with clients, and appear on behalf of clients in court hearings and at other relevant proceedings.

Candidates must have a minimum of five years of criminal practice experience in at least one of the following areas: capital case representation; appellate, post-conviction and/or federal habeas corpus litigation; or complex criminal or civil litigation. Capital post-conviction, federal habeas or appellate experience is preferred. Candidates must possess strong writing ability and a demonstrated commitment to poverty law or indigent criminal defense. Requirements include admission and good standing before the federal bar, in combination with admission and good standing to a state bar. Eligibility for admission to the Pennsylvania Bar or willingness to sit for and pass the next Pennsylvania bar examination is required.

Candidates must be able to engage in significant overnight travel throughout the Commonwealth and out of state. The position requires that the incumbent occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds and spend extended periods driving or riding in a car. Fluency (oral and written) in Spanish is preferred, but not required.

Kindly note that the filling of this position will be subject to the funding restrictions and approval of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Sonya Malcolm, Human Resources Administrator, via e-mail at [EmploymentPAE@fd.org](mailto:EmploymentPAE@fd.org), or by regular mail to Suite 540 West, The Curtis Center, 601 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106. Candidates will be interviewed on an ongoing basis, and the position will remain open, until filled.