The Federal Public Defender is accepting applications for the position of Assistant Federal Public Defender to be stationed in Oxford. The federal defender organization operates under authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, to provide defense services in federal criminal cases and related matters by appointment from the court. The organization has staffed offices in Jackson, Gulfport, and Oxford.

Requirements. An assistant federal public defender must be: (1) a graduate of an accredited law school, and admitted to practice in good standing before the highest court of a state; (2) licensed to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi by the time of entrance on duty; and (3) must be licensed to practice law in the State of Mississippi. Employment is subject to a satisfactory background investigation.

Duties. The assistant federal public defender will represent clients charged with federal criminal offenses and clients involved in other matters covered under the Act. The position requires travel for investigation, litigation, and training. Federal public defender attorneys may not engage in the private practice of law.

Selection Criteria. The successful applicant will have an established capacity or clearly demonstrated aptitude for excellence in criminal defense practice, a commitment to the representation of indigent accused persons, and a reputation for personal integrity.

Salary and Benefits. The salary of an assistant federal public defender is commensurate with that of an assistant U.S. attorney with similar qualifications and experience. The position is in the excepted service and does not carry the tenure rights of the competitive Civil Service. The position includes regular Government employment benefits including health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit). Offer of employment subject to the availability of funds.

How to Apply. Qualified persons may apply by forwarding a letter of interest, résumé, and representative writing sample. Email or mail the documents to: dean_applegate@fd.org or mail to Dean Applegate, Administrative Officer, Office of the Federal Public Defender, 200 South Lamar Street, Suite 200-N, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Announced November 4, 2019; open until filled.

The Federal Public Defender is an equal-opportunity employer.