

**CONTRACT ANNOUNCEMENT
NATIONAL HABEAS ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING COUNSEL
PROJECT SEEKS ATTORNEY TO MAINTAIN *ATKINS* DATABASE**

The National Habeas and Assistance Training Counsel Project (HAT) is presently comprised of five contract attorneys with extensive expertise in federal capital habeas corpus litigation and practice. HAT provides assistance to counsel in federal capital habeas litigation, as well as to the federal courts, including the U.S. Judicial Conference Defender Services Committee and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts' Defender Services Office. One of the products produced for habeas attorneys by HAT is through a section of a webpage—capdefnet.org—where resource materials and information regarding federal capital habeas corpus practice and developments are maintained. Since 2002, HAT, in conjunction with the Cornell Death Penalty Project and Justice 360, has developed and maintained a database consisting of all reported (and many unreported) decisions related to the Supreme Court's decision in *Atkins v. Virginia* that individuals with intellectual disability cannot be executed under the Eighth Amendment.

HAT seeks an attorney who will continue the upkeep and maintenance of the database, which involves identifying the relevant cases, summarizing them according to the existing “tags,” and entering the summaries into the database.

The successful applicant will:

- Have at least 5 years of capital appellate or capital post-conviction practice and experience,
- Demonstrated excellent legal research and analysis skills,
- The ability to work with and maintain a large data set, and
- A demonstrated commitment to fairness and justice.

This is a contract position and will be performed remotely. No office space or benefits are included. Compensation is hourly at a rate of \$150 per hour. Monthly bills must be submitted detailing the date, the specific activities performed, and the amount of time expended. It is expected that the number of hours per month will not exceed 20. The maximum annual contract shall not exceed \$36,000.00 per fiscal year. Expenses related to the contract work, excluding overhead expenses, are provided in the contract, but the costs are deducted from the total contract budget.

The contract will begin in fiscal year 2026 (the current fiscal year which began on October 1, 2025 and ends on September 30, 2026), subject to the availability of funding. Since the contract will begin in the current fiscal year, it will be prorated in proportion to the time remaining in the fiscal year.

This is a one-year contract with the possibility of renewal.

This contract does not involve any direct representation of clients.

To apply, please email a cover letter expressing interest, relevant capital appellate or capital post-conviction experience, and research and writing skills, a resume, a writing sample and three professional references addressed to Mark Olive at HAT_Applications@fd.org. **Please include “Atkins Contract Application” in subject line of email.** No phone calls please.

Applications from individuals whose background and experience contribute to the diversity of the federal capital habeas defense bar are encouraged. Applications will be accepted until the contract is filled; interested applicants are encouraged to apply before June 15, 2026.