

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

Southern District of Florida

www.fpdsouthflorida.org

Hector A. Dopico
Federal Public Defender

Location: Miami

Helaine B. Batoff
Chief Assistant

Miami:

Abigail Becker
Christian Dunham
R. D'Arsey Houlihan
Bunmi Lomax
Supervising Attorneys

Helene Barthelemy
Sowmya Bharathi
Elizabeth Blair
Ebony Blenman
Micki Bloom
Anshu Budhrani
Paul Carson
Michael Caruso
Eric Cohen
Tracy Dreispul
MacAnn Dunker
Daniel L. Ecarius
Sogol Ghomeshi
Jean-Pierre Gilbert
Alexandra Hoffman
Srilekha Jayanthi
Ashley Kay
Evan Kuhl
Ian McDonald
Kate Mollison
Leticia Olivera
Marisa Taney
Kate Taylor
Victor Van Dyke

Ft. Lauderdale:

Jan C. Smith,
Branch Supervisor
Bernardo Lopez,
Supervising Attorney

Andrew Adler
Huda Ajlani-Maci
Lori Barrist
Janice Bergmann
Brenda G. Bryn
Allari Dominguez
Margaret Y. Foldes
Sara Kane
Ta'Ronce Stowes
Wesley Wallace

West Palm Beach:

Peter Birch,
Branch Supervisor

Scott Berry
Caroline McCrae
Kristy Militello

Fort Pierce:

Kafahni Nkrumah
Renee Sihvola

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER FORT LAUDERDALE/WEST PALM BEACH OFFICES

The Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Florida is accepting applications for the positions of Assistant Federal Public Defender in our Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach offices. The Federal Public Defender, a branch of the United States Courts, an Equal Opportunity Employer, operates under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. §3006A, to provide defense services to indigent persons in federal criminal cases and related matters in the federal courts.

Requirements: An Assistant Federal Public Defender must: (1) be a graduate of an accredited law school and have admission and good standing in a state bar; (2) have at least two years of experience practicing law; and (3) be a member of, or eligible for immediate admission to, the bar of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Duties: Assistant Federal Public Defender duties include research and writing motions and briefs, attending trial and other court hearings, direct appeals to the circuit court, post-conviction and witness representation, and representation in other matters such as supervised release and parole hearings.

Selection Criteria: The successful applicant must have a demonstrated capacity or aptitude for excellence in trial and appellate practice, a commitment to the representation of indigent accused persons, and sufficient experience to immediately undertake the defense of serious criminal cases in the United States courts. This position also requires excellent courtroom skills, strong writing abilities, excellent research and time management skills, proficiency in computer-assisted legal research, and word processing capability.

The selected candidate will be subject to a background check as a condition of employment and could be subject to an additional government security clearance on some cases.

Miami

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Ft. Lauderdale

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West Palm Beach

250 South Australian Avenue
Suite 400
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-5040
Tel: (561) 833-6288
Fax: (561) 247-7094

Ft. Pierce

109 North 2nd Street
Ft. Pierce, FL 34950
Tel: (772) 489-2123
Fax: (772) 489-3997

Salary and Benefits: This is a full-time “at-will” position, and salary is commensurate with Assistant United States Attorneys for the Southern District of Florida. This position offers federal employment benefits, including health and life insurance, dependent and long-term insurance programs, flexible spending accounts, commuter benefits program, mandatory participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System, and participation in the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit).

How to Apply: No telephone calls please. Qualified persons may apply by submitting (**in PDF format as ONE attachment**) a letter of interest outlining experience, background in criminal law, and interest in the field of criminal defense; resume; three references with contact information; and a representative writing sample to: Raisa_Gonzalez@fd.org.

Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Hiring for this position is subject to the availability of funds in the final appropriation. Open until **March 6, 2026**. All responses will remain confidential.

The Federal Public Defender is an Equal-Opportunity Employer.
**All applicants, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin,
gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability,
or age, are encouraged to apply.**