

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Federal Public Defender – Pensacola



Navarre Beach, FL

The Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida is seeking a trial attorney for the branch office in Pensacola.

This Assistant Federal Public Defender will primarily represent clients at the trial level before the district court. Applicants must have at least five years of criminal trial experience. Trial skills, the ability to work with all kinds of people, research and writing skills, the maturity to interact collegially with court personnel and prosecutors, a willingness to work as hard and as long as it takes to get the job done, and a demonstrated commitment to clients are essential. Federal court experience

and membership in The Florida Bar are advantages, but not prerequisites. Fluency in Spanish will also be an advantage although not a requirement. Membership in, or immediate eligibility for membership in, the Bar for the Northern District of Florida is a prerequisite.

Pensacola is a hidden gem on the Gulf of Mexico. It is home to beautiful white-sand beaches and a vibrant downtown. It is home to brilliant, emerald green water, world-class white-sand beaches and a vibrant downtown. Established in 1559, Pensacola is one of the oldest cities in America and is steeped in history and culture - to include the Pensacola Opera, the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra, Ballet Pensacola, the historic Saenger Theatre, and the accredited Pensacola Museum of Art. Pensacola has a food and arts calendar filled with annual festivals such as the Foo Foo Festival, the Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival, Pensacon/ComicCon, Pensacola Seafood Festival, Pensacola Crawfish Festival, the Fiesta of Five Flags and holiday themed parades and celebrations to include Mardi Gras. The legendary Blue Angels call Pensacola home and are housed at Naval Air Station Pensacola, often called the "Cradle of Naval Aviation." The area is surrounded by gorgeous state and national parks, to include the Gulf Islands National Seashore, the 8th most visited park in 2022 for recreation in the National Park Service. One of the best sailing venues in the world, Pensacola is the new permanent home of American Magic, the American yacht racing team formed to compete in the 37th America's Cup located in Barcelona, Spain. The area has a rich sports history, and has its own minor league baseball team, the Pensacola Blue Wahoos, its own professional ice hockey team, the Pensacola Ice Flyers, and enjoys collegiate sporting action from the University of West Florida and Pensacola State College. Aside from all its amenities, Pensacola is truly "the Upside of Florida" and offers a quality of life that is not available in larger cities - the cost of living is 68% lower than San Francisco, 16% lower than New Orleans, and 40% lower than Washington, D.C., per the Forbes.com Cost of Living Calculator (August 2026).

Employment is conditioned upon a favorable background check. Salary will be based on experience and skill level, consistent with federal rules and regulations. Salary includes federal benefits, with health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Position is subject to approval of funding.

Qualified applicants should apply by forwarding in PDF format a short letter of interest, a resume, three references, and a representative writing sample to:

FLN_Resumes@fd.org. Applications will be reviewed on a continuing basis until the position is filled.

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. Reasonable accommodations are available to applicants with disabilities.



Pensacola Dog Beaches

Vacancy Announcement FY26-017