

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Assistant Federal Public Defender – Trial Division  
Tallahassee, FL**



Tallahassee, FL - Cascades Park

The Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida is seeking an Assistant Federal Public Defender for its trial unit. The position is in our main office in Tallahassee, Florida, however, the AFD will be assigned cases throughout the district including cases in Pensacola. Applicants should be willing to travel as needed for court appearances and trials including multi-day travel. **This is an approved backfill that is excepted from the nationwide Defender Services' hiring freeze.**

This Assistant Federal Public Defender will primarily represent clients at the trial level before the district court. Applicants must have at least three 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 to, the Bar for the Northern District of Florida is a prerequisite.

Tallahassee is Florida's Capital City and home to the Florida State University Seminoles and the Florida A&M University Rattlers. Tallahassee has something for everyone, whether it be bike and nature trails, state parks, museums, college sports, and more. Tallahassee's unique location in the Florida Panhandle allows access to seafood festivals, holiday festivals, as well as caverns and natural springs. Further, Tallahassee offers a quality of life that is not available in larger cities – the cost of living is 79% lower than San Francisco, 30% lower than Miami, and 53% lower than Washington, D.C., per the Forbes.com Cost of Living Calculator (March 2025).



Tallahassee, FL – Lake Ella



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](mailto: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.



Tallahassee, FL - Collegetown

Vacancy Announcement FY25-002