

**OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO**

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**RESEARCH & WRITING ATTORNEY – TRIAL UNIT
Limited Term Position
Position Announcement 21-002**

The Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Ohio is accepting applications for the position of Research & Writing Specialist to be stationed in the Trial Unit of the Columbus office. The Federal Defender Organization operates under authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 USC §3006A, to provide representation to indigent persons in federal criminal cases and related matters in the federal courts.

Job Description: The Research & Writing Attorney provides advanced research and writing support to the Assistant Federal Defenders in the office. The individual will be a part of a team of attorneys, investigators, and paralegals representing individuals charged with federal offenses. This position does not ordinarily sign pleadings or make court appearances, unless directed by the Defender.

Qualifications: The successful applicant must be a graduate from an accredited law school, a member in good standing of the bar of any state or territory, and have at least one year of practice experience. An Ohio bar license is recommended but not required. Applicants should have a commitment to providing quality representation to indigent defendants and have a reputation for personal integrity. Written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills are essential for this position, as is the ability to analyze legal issues from lengthy, complex records. Successful applicants will be able to prioritize projects and work both independently and cooperatively. Research & Writing Attorneys may not engage in the private practice of law.

Salary and Benefits: Starting salary will be commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the applicant. This position is **limited one-year appointment** and does not carry the tenure rights of the competitive Civil Service. The position does offer federal government employment benefits including health and life insurance, retirement and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit). Employment will be considered provisional pending the successful outcome of a background check, including FBI fingerprint check.

Conditions of Employment: All application information is subject to verification. Employees of the Federal Defender are members of the judicial branch of government and are considered 'at will'.

Application Information: Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest, current detailed resume, writing sample, and references in **PDF format** to OHS_employment@fd.org including the position number in the subject line. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Federal Public Defender, Southern District of Ohio is an equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. The FPD provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. The decision on granting reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis. One or more applicants may be selected from this posting. This position is subject to the availability of funds.