

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

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Vacancy Announcement

Position: Assistant Federal Public Defender – Capital Habeas Unit (CHU)

Location: Dallas Division

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

The Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Texas is accepting applications for full-time Assistant Federal Public Defenders in the newly forming Capital Habeas Unit (CHU) in the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas. The CHU represents death-sentenced prisoners in federal habeas corpus proceedings in the United States District Courts in Texas, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

There are several CHUs in operation across the country and this will be one of two CHUs established for the first time in Texas. Skilled collaboration, strategic litigation, compassionate representation, and unique approaches to the issues affecting our clients are among the values we aim to foster in our CHU. If you are not able to work well with other lawyers, paralegals, investigators, legal assistants, and interns in the office in defending the indigent, then do not apply.

The successful applicant must be a talented legal writer and have litigation experience in at least one of the following areas: criminal law, especially in capital cases; habeas corpus litigation; and complex federal court civil litigation. Some capital post-conviction experience is preferred. A background in any area of mental health and/or social work is also helpful. Finally you should be team oriented, committed to indigent criminal defense, and able to foster the office's role as a resource to the Criminal Justice Act panel members in capital habeas cases.

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited law school, and be a member in good standing of the highest court in the state where licensed, but a Texas bar license is strongly preferred.

This position may require work on holidays, evenings, and weekends, as the nature of the cases require. This position also requires extensive travel. The CHU will represent death-sentenced prisoners in all four federal districts in Texas.

Salary and Benefits: The position is full-time with federal benefits and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. The position is excepted service and does not carry the tenure rights of the competitive Civil Service. Benefits include health and life insurance, retirement, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by direct deposit. A final offer of

employment is subject to a background check.

Application Process: To apply, email to TXN_Employment@fd.org **in a single Adobe PDF file using the subject line “NDTX-AFPD-CHU”** the following:

- A brief cover letter explaining your interest in the position and your qualifications;
- A resume;
- References;
- Law school transcripts, and;
- Representative writing sample.

Applications submitted by fax or mail will not be considered. Moreover, do not send your application directly to the Federal Public Defender via e-mail because he will promptly delete the e-mail. More than one position may be filled with this announcement.

The Federal Public Defender is an Equal Opportunity Employer