Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho
Position Announcement

Trial/Appellate Attorney
(Assistant Federal Public Defender)

Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho is now accepting applications for a Trial/Appellate Attorney position in Spokane, Washington, with an emphasis on appellate practice. The primary practice areas will be before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, U.S. District Court for Idaho, and United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. This organization litigates cases in four locations: Richland, Yakima, and Spokane, WA (all in the Eastern District of Washington); and Coeur d’Alene, ID (District of Idaho).

Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho is the Community Defender Organization (see 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(g)(2)(B)) for the Eastern District of Washington and the Northern District of Idaho. The organization is a non-profit corporation funded by a grant from the federal government. Employees of Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho are considered “at will” and are not government employees. The organization provides defense services in federal criminal cases and related matters appointed by the court. The organization's main office is in Spokane, Washington, with a branch office in Yakima, Washington.

JOB DESCRIPTION: This is a trial/appellate attorney position, which means the attorney will be handling criminal cases from inception (be it pre-indictment, complaint, or indictment) to either trial or sentencing – or both, with an emphasis on appellate practice. The caseload is varied, but includes the following: 1) firearms offenses; 2) drug offenses; 3) immigration offenses; 4) child pornography and 5) white collar offenses. The two offices cover numerous Indian Reservations where there are many cases involving serious assaults (physical and sexual) and murders occurring in Indian Country. Regular day trips and some overnight travel is required for case investigations, court appearances, and visiting clients housed in various correctional facilities throughout Eastern Washington and Central/North Idaho. An attorney may not engage in the private practice of law. Anticipated starting date negotiable; however, on board before the end of September 2020.

REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants must possess the following license qualifications: 1) be a graduate of an accredited law school; 2) be admitted to practice before the highest court in a state (a Washington bar license is not required); 3) be eligible for admission to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington and U.S. District Court of Idaho; and 4) be eligible for admission to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Regarding experience, applicants must possess at least nine (9) years of professional experience as a trial attorney or less if federal appellate experience. This office believes true excellence is achieved through collaboration between people of diverse perspectives and shared respect. We therefore ask any who share these beliefs apply for this position.

SALARY/BENEFITS: This is a full-time position. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Salary is on a scale equivalent to that of Assistant U.S. Attorneys. Benefits are provided, and salary is payable by direct deposit.

TO APPLY: Send Resume with letter of interest to include bar license state and number, a recent writing sample (10-page limit) and 3 references by electronic submissions in PDF format only to:

Email: wae_employment@fd.org
Subject Line: Trial/Appellate Attorney-Spokane
No telephone calls: Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

One or more positions may be filled by this announcement. Applications received after this date may be considered if position has not been filled. Position subject to the availability of funds. Interviews will be scheduled in Spokane, Washington (travel to interview is at your own expense).

FDEWI is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage people of diverse backgrounds to apply.