

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

10 West Broad Street, Suite 1020  
Columbus, OH 43215

**INVESTIGATOR - TRIAL UNIT  
Position Announcement 20-003**

The Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Ohio is accepting applications for the position of Investigator in the Trial Unit of the Columbus office. The Federal Public Defender, a branch of the U.S. Courts, operates under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act, 18 USC 3006A, to provide defense services to indigent persons in federal criminal cases and related matters in the federal courts.

**Duties:** The Trial Investigator will assist attorneys representing indigent clients charged with offenses in federal court. Duties will include case preparation by way of the gathering and detailed review of law enforcement, court, medical and other records; locating and interviewing clients and witnesses; and meeting with experts. Other duties will include preparing and submitting written reports to summarize investigative findings. The investigator will also conduct fact and social history investigations, identifying factors in the case and the client's background that require expert evaluations. The Investigator will consult with attorneys to develop guilt and penalty phase theories of the case and case strategy. The Investigator will perform other duties as assigned by trial attorneys and the Federal Public Defender. Must have dependable vehicle as local and some extended overnight travel is required.

**Requirements:** A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required. Applicants should possess excellent interpersonal skills, the ability to establish and maintain good working relationships, and the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Applicants must have a working knowledge of legal terminology and court procedures, and be comfortable handling extensive, sensitive and confidential documentation and information collected from witnesses. The position requires considerable resourcefulness, creativity, initiative and drive, the ability to analyze and evaluate facts, evidence and related information, as well as tact and discretion. Experience in identifying, locating and interviewing defense, prosecution and expert witnesses, and knowledge of the Federal criminal justice system and related agencies is preferred. Solid experience with computer software (including MS Office, Adobe Acrobat, Case Map Summation, Trial Director, etc.) is required, as well as an extensive understanding of the internet applications and computer hardware, such as cameras, video, and other technical equipment.

**Salary and Benefits:** Starting salary will be commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the selected candidate. This position is excepted service 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, the Federal Employees Retirement System and the Thrift Savings Plan. Salary is payable only by Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit).

**Conditions of Employment:** All application information is subject to verification. Appointment to the position is contingent upon a background investigation including an FBI fingerprint check. Employees of the Federal Public Defender are members of the judicial branch of government; they are considered 'at will' and can be terminated with or without cause.

**Application Information:** Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest, current detailed resume, references and a writing sample **in PDF format** to [OHS\\_Employment@fd.org](mailto:OHS_Employment@fd.org). 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 FPDO provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. This position is subject to the availability of funds.***