

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

10 W. Broad St. Suite 1020  
Columbus, OH 43215

**RESEARCH & WRITING ATTORNEY – COLUMBUS TRIAL UNIT  
One-Year Limited Term Position  
Position Announcement 22-006**

The Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Ohio is accepting applications for the position of Research & Writing Attorney, 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 Public Defenders in the office. The individual will be a part of a team of criminal defense attorneys, investigators, and paralegals representing individuals charged with federal offenses. General duties will include examining, analyzing and researching records, performing legal research and writing briefs, motions, and legal memoranda, and assisting with all aspects of case preparation. 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 two years of legal 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 and 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 is a **one-year limited term position** 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.

**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](mailto:OHS_employment@fd.org) including the position number in the subject line. All application information is subject to verification. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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

***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.***