

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT  
**SOCIAL WORKER/PARALEGAL**

**POSITION #:** 2019-7-LEGAL  
**ANNOUNCED:** July 10, 2019  
**CLOSES:** Priority given to applications received by August 9, 2019

The Federal Public Defender for the Western District of Washington is accepting applications for the position of Social Worker/Paralegal in the Seattle office. This position provides the opportunity to work in a fast-paced, challenging, diverse, and rewarding environment. Employees enjoy generous benefits and work/life programs. Our office is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.

The successful applicant should have a Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Social Work, Counseling or Human Services and a minimum of three years of experience working with social service organizations serving high-risk client populations in the criminal justice or legal fields. Candidates are expected to be proficient with Word, Excel, Adobe, and internet research techniques, and be willing to learn in-house database programs. A valid Washington driver's license is required. This position is located in Seattle, but frequent travel to the Tacoma office will be required. Occasional travel throughout the Western District of Washington is also required.

Responsibilities of the Social Worker include, but are not limited, to:

- work alongside attorneys, paralegals and investigators in a dynamic team environment providing exceptional advocacy in support of our mission
- meet with clients regularly, develop service plans, provide referrals for housing, treatment and other client needs, conduct crisis intervention assessments and direct case management assistance regarding vocational and educational development, and other criminal justice involvement and supervision issues
- propose alternatives to incarceration where appropriate and work with clients in the Western District's drug court program, known as DREAM
- build relationships and consult with outside treatment providers, probation officers, attorneys, Federal Bureau of Prisons staff and experts including psychologists and psychiatrists
- maintain a resource database for clients as well as staff and provide training on relevant topics
- organize workshops for clients regarding reentry issues and other relevant topics

Additional qualifications required:

- humility, ability to collaborate on a team, flexibility and the capability to juggle multiple tasks;
- demonstrated experience in the applications of traditional social work advocacy and clinical skills to working with and supporting clients
- experience working with a diverse population and comfortable engaging in dialogue about discrimination and implicit bias based on race, ethnicity, gender and/or sexual orientation;
- experience applying a client-centered and holistic approach to legal representation

Fluency in Spanish is highly desired.

This is a full-time position with federal salary and benefits based on qualifications and experience. The starting salary range is \$67,816 to \$114,219 depending on experience. The salary will be based on qualifications and years of relevant experience consistent with federal guidelines and regulations. This position is dependent on federal funding and subject to mandatory Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit). Employment will be considered provisional pending the successful outcome of a

background fingerprint check. To qualify, an applicant must meet U.S. citizenship or immigration status requirements for employment. See [www.uscourts.gov/careers/search-judiciary-jobs/citizenship-requirements-employment-judiciary](http://www.uscourts.gov/careers/search-judiciary-jobs/citizenship-requirements-employment-judiciary).

Qualified persons may apply by submitting a letter of interest, resume and two work references with names, addresses and telephone numbers. This position will be open until filled.- Applications may only be submitted by email to:

Michael Filipovic  
Federal Public Defender  
Attn: Human Resources  
[wawpersonnel@fd.org](mailto:wawpersonnel@fd.org)

**NO TELEPHONE OR E-MAIL INQUIRIES PLEASE.**

**The Federal Public Defender is an equal opportunity employer.**