

MITIGATION SPECIALIST/INVESTIGATOR

The Indiana Federal Community Defender for the Southern District of Indiana is accepting applications for a full-time Mitigation Specialist/Investigator to be located in its Indianapolis office. The Indiana Federal Community Defender defends persons accused of federal crimes.

The Mitigation Specialist/Investigator assists attorneys in investigating, analyzing, developing and presenting the mitigation evidence that exists in the life history of our clients. The goal of the Mitigation Specialist is to help our attorneys present the court with a holistic picture of our clients to aid the court in imposing an appropriate sentence.

Duties include gathering and summarizing institutional records; discovering and interviewing relevant lay and professional persons; discovering, documenting and verifying the client's medical, mental health, educational, and employment history; determining which other experts should be consulted; facilitating the client's entry into necessary treatment programs; compiling a list of experts; researching and developing possible alternative sentencing plans; preparing sentencing presentations in writing or other means; keeping up with current research in areas such as substance abuse, mental health, and effects of incarceration; testifying where necessary and other duties as needed.

The successful candidate will possess the following:

- An MSW or commensurate degree;
- Experience working with incarcerated persons and their families;
- Knowledge of organic brain disorders and mental health disabilities and ability to screen for same;
- Knowledge of the impact of chronic trauma and ability to appropriately interview for same;
- Knowledge of the federal court criminal justice system;
- Outstanding writing and communication skills;
- Ability and desire to work in a collaborative non-judgmental environment;
- A willingness to visit with clients in a jail setting;
- Cultural competence and a willingness to become culturally competent;
- A commitment to equal justice.
- Fluency/proficiency in Spanish is a plus.
- Experience conducting mitigation investigations in death penalty cases, not required, but a plus.

Salary is commensurate with experience. The position includes very good benefits. Closing date for applications is **April 23, 2014**.

Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample along with relevant references via email only (no phone calls please) to:

Shirlena Lange
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