

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

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**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Social Worker – Mitigation Specialist**  
2021-02

The Federal Public Defender for the District of New Mexico is accepting applications for the position of Social Worker – Mitigation Specialist. The position will be based in the Albuquerque office, but may assist district-wide. Current starting salary range for a JSP 11-14 is \$64,412 - \$108,486. More than one position may be filled from this posting. The Federal Public Defender operates under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act (CJA), 18 U.S.C. §3006A, to provide defense services for indigent persons in federal criminal cases and related matters in the federal courts.

**Primary Job Duties:**

We are looking for applicants with social work training and experience to identify and access resources and services in the community for clients needing mental health and physical health treatment, substance abuse treatment, housing and employment. This position will also assist clients in obtaining needed documents, transportation, social security benefits, and other needs related to re-entering the community after incarceration, to include conditions of release on bond or as alternatives to incarceration. Demonstrated cultural responsiveness required. We are looking for someone with a commitment to working with indigent, under-served, marginalized and diverse communities. A large percentage of our clients are of Native American or Latin American descent.

The mitigation aspect of the position will involve taking social histories, gathering and summarizing social history records, conducting interviews with clients and individuals with relevant knowledge about the client's childhood development, education, employment, medical and mental health history. This position will consult with experts, develop and maintain relationships with clients, their family members, local social service providers, pretrial service/probation officers, and other entities to support both the client and the attorney assigned to the case. Position may also require the assistance in the development and presentation of evidence in court proceedings, field investigation, reviewing and analyzing discovery and other case documentation. Applicants must be able to travel as necessary. Applicants must possess the ability to work both independently and in a team environment, communicate effectively both orally and in writing, be accurate and attentive to detail, compose correspondence independently, organize work, set priorities and meet critical deadlines. This will be our first social worker – mitigation specialist position, so it is an exciting opportunity to help establish and define the position and protocols. Other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications:**

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and relevant experience at a minimum. A Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) with 4 years of experience is desired, however a Master of Social Work (MSW) or Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) with at least 2 years relevant experience is preferred. Bi-lingual skills highly desired.

This is a full-time position with federal salary and benefits. The position is subject to mandatory Electronic Funds Transfer (direct deposit) participation for payment of net pay. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. All résumé information and certifications will be verified during the interview process. Final appointment is subject to a satisfactory background investigation.

In **one** PDF document, please submit a statement of interest and detailed résumé of experience with at least three references to:

Melissa Read, Administrative Officer

[FDNM-HR@fd.org](mailto:FDNM-HR@fd.org)

Reference **2021-02** in the subject.

Applications must be received by December 31st, 2020. Position will remain open until filled and is subject to the availability of funding. The Federal Public Defender is an equal opportunity employer.

**No phone calls please. Submissions not following this format will not be considered.  
Only those selected for interview will be contacted.**