

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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*Santa Ana Branch Chief*

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*Riverside Branch Chief*

**MARGARET A. FARRAND**

*Appeals Chief*

**JONATHAN AMINOFF**

*Non-Capital Habeas Chief*

**NEHA CHRISTERNA**

*Collaborative Courts Chief*

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## **Vacancy Announcement**

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**Position:** Paralegal

**Location:** Los Angeles, CA

**Deadline:** March 22, 2026

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The Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California is accepting applications for a full-time paralegal position in our Trial Unit and Capital Habeas Unit (CHU) stationed in Los Angeles, California. The Federal Public Defender's Office is committed to the pursuit of justice by advocating for the constitutional rights and inherent dignity of individuals who cannot afford their own lawyer. Through diverse experience, collaborative and thorough case development, focused litigation strategies, and skilled courtroom advocacy, the Office provides the highest quality representation in federal and post-conviction proceedings.

**Job Duties:** The Office is recruiting for multiple paralegal positions, including trial paralegal and capital habeas paralegal. For detailed descriptions of each role, please visit our careers page at <https://fpdcdca.org/careers/current-openings/>.

**Requirements:** Please review individual paralegal vacancy announcements on our careers page for the requirements for each role.

Varying hours including nights, weekends, and holidays may be required. A background investigation is required as a condition of employment. In line with current appropriations law, applicants must be United States citizens or permanent residents seeking citizenship as described [here](#).

**Selection Criteria:** Please review individual paralegal vacancy announcements on our careers page for the selection criteria for each role.

**Salary/Benefits:** This is a full-time, at-will position. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience and is subject to direct deposit. Benefits include health and life insurance, retirement, and a Thrift Savings Plan. After successful completion of a probationary

period, eligible employees may elect to telework up to two days per week, subject to certain conditions. For more information on benefits, see <http://www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits>.

**How to Apply:** Apply by submitting a letter of interest, résumé, a representative writing sample, and three references through our website at <https://fpdcdca.org/careers/current-openings/>. We will accept applications until March 22, 2026, or until filled. Interviews will occur on a rolling basis and the open position may be filled before that date. Priority will be given to early applicants. The Federal Public Defender's Office may fill current and future positions from this vacancy announcement. Please, no phone calls.

*The Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace. All applicants, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or age, are encouraged to apply.*