

OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

810 Broadway, Suite 200
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

<http://tnm.fd.org>

The Office of the Federal Public Defender contains two units: the Trial Unit, which represents indigent persons charged with violations of federal criminal statutes, and the Capital Habeas Unit (CHU), which represents people on death row seeking federal habeas corpus relief from their capital convictions and death sentences. Our office currently employs 19 attorneys, 9 investigators, and 15 support staff.

Each unit sponsors a full-time summer internship program (8-10 weeks) as well as part-time (8-12 hours/week) semester externships for law school credit. Our interns work closely with attorneys to perform legal research and writing for motions, memoranda, and briefs. We encourage interns to attend court hearings, trials, meetings with clients, and field investigation with our investigators. In addition, we offer other educational opportunities and social events during the summer. We seek qualified applicants with strong research and writing skills, and an interest in indigent criminal defense or death penalty work. **Our internships are largely in person, though we support some remote work.**

Our internships are unpaid. **Parking in downtown Nashville is expensive! Unfortunately, while we can reimburse intern public transportation expenses, we cannot reimburse parking costs.** Students may wish to secure class credit for their work with us, or apply for any public interest fellowship or stipend that may be available through your law school.

Application periods

- May 1 – July 31 (Fall internships)
- September 1 – December 1 (Spring internships)
- September 1 to January 15 (Summer internships)

Applications should include: (1) cover letter; (2) resume; (3) writing sample; and (4) law school transcript (need not be official) all saved in one PDF.

Trial Unit Internship: please send materials to Jessica Dragonetti and David Fletcher (TNM_legalinterns@fd.org).

CHU Internship: please send materials to Kit Thomas (kit_thomas@fd.org).

Applicants are encouraged to submit their materials as early as possible within the application periods listed above. We only accept a small numbers of interns, and offers are given on a rolling basis.