## **Career Opportunity**

**Position:** Chief Probation Officer

Vacancy Number: 25-11

Location: Dallas, TX

Closing Date: Open Until Filled

Starting Salary/Range: JSP 15-18

\$159,244-\$247,400\*

\*Depending upon qualifications and experience

#### **Position Overview:**

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas is accepting applications for the position of Chief Probation Officer. The Chief Probation Officer reports to the district judges of the Northern District of Texas and is under the administrative direction of the Chief District Judge.

The Chief Probation Officer is the court unit executive who administers and manages federal probation and pretrial services work for the entire Northern District of Texas. The district has eleven district judges, five senior district judge and nine full-time magistrate judges. The probation and pretrial services office is headquartered in downtown Dallas, Texas, with divisional offices in Abilene, Amarillo, Fort Worth, Lubbock, San Angelo, and Wichita Falls. Frequent travel is required.

Prior to appointment, the applicant selected for this position will be required to undergo a full FBI background investigation, drug screen, and credit check. The Probation Chief must adhere to the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees and will be subject to random drug screening and updated background investigations every five years.

### **Representative Duties:**

- 1. Organizes the probation and pretrial services office to ensure expeditious handling of investigative work for the courts and other institutions and the effective case supervision of probationers and those on supervised release
- 2. Reviews, analyzes and interprets statutory, Judicial Conference, Administrative Office, and local court requirements for the administration of probation and pretrial services; promulgates policies, procedures, and guidelines necessary to meet these requirements
- 3. Serves as the office's primary administrative liaison with the judges
- 4. Collaborates and cooperates with other local federal court unit executives to ensure appropriate levels of service delivery to the court in an effective and efficient manner



# U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

The Northern District of Texas is made up of 100 of the 254 counties in Texas.

Nine of the cities in the district are among the top twenty most populous cities in Texas. Two of the cities, Dallas and Fort Worth, are in the top twenty most populous cities in the country.

Geographically, the district encompasses more than 96,000 square miles, making it the largest land area federal district in the country, except for those that encompass an entire state.

Many of the nation's Fortune 500 companies are either headquartered or have a major presence in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

- 5. Selects and recommends to the court applicants for appointment as probation and pretrial services officers and appoints all non-officer personnel; provides specific recommendations to the court in all other personnel matters, including promotions, salary increases, disciplinary actions, and dismissals; determines that all personnel are carefully selected and adequately trained; makes certain the work of all subordinates is systematically evaluated
- 6. Prepares the office's operating budget and make estimates for personnel, space allocation, and operating allowance needs; approves requisitions, certifies vouchers for payment, and maintains appropriate fiscal controls in all matters pertaining to travel expenses and purchases of services, equipment, and supplies
- 7. Establishes and maintains contact with public and private agencies that provide employment, medical, legal, or social services
- 8. Maintains a system of communication, enabling awareness of pertinent information at all levels; delegates decision-making responsibility to appropriate levels; provides qualitative and quantitative measures of work performance; and assures accountability with minimal interference to service delivery
- 9. Makes specific recommendations regarding court-related criminal justice issues with particular emphasis on matters relating to sound sentencing practices
- 10. Establishes and maintains cooperative relationships with other probation and pretrial services offices to assure that all requests for assistance from other districts are met promptly and effectively
- 11. Establishes and maintains cooperative relationships with all components of the criminal justice system to include federal, state, and local law enforcement, correctional, and social service agencies

### **Qualifications:**

- Substantial organizational, administrative, and leadership skills required; preference will be given to applicants with management training and a demonstrated record of effective management
- Bachelors' degree from an accredited college or university in a related field required; graduate degree preferred
- Three years of specialized experience required; no substitutions<sup>1</sup>
- One year of the required specialized experience must have been at the next lower grade level or its equivalent<sup>2</sup>
- United States citizenship or eligibility to work for the United States government required

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Specialized experience is defined as progressively responsible experience in the investigation, supervision, counseling, and guidance of offenders placed in community correction or pretrial programs. Experience as a police officer, FBI agent, customs agent, marshal, or similar position does not meet the requirements of specialized experience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>One year of substantial management experience may be substituted for the requirement that one of the three years of specialized experience be at or equivalent to the next lower grade. Substantial management experience is high-level administrative experience that provides a thorough understanding of the organizational, procedural, and human aspects of managing an organization. Such experience typically includes financial management, space and facilities management, oversight of information technology and human resources functions, and long and short-range planning. Possible titles indicative of this experience outside the judiciary would include president or vice president in charge of several departments or offices, director or assistant director in charge of several departments or offices, head manager or owner-operator of a medium to large company. Possible titles within the judiciary would include deputy chief probation officer, deputy chief pretrial services officer, assistant deputy chief probation officer, or assistant deputy chief pretrial services officer.

### **Benefits:**

The United States District Court falls within the Judicial Branch of the U.S. Government. Policy for the Judicial Branch is determined by the Judicial Conference of the United States. Appointments in the District Clerk's Office are made by the Clerk of Court under authority of 28 U.S.C. § 751. Benefits include participation in the Federal Employees' Retirement System which contributes to the Social Security Retirement Program, Federal Employees' Health Benefits, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance, Thrifts Savings Plan (like a 401(k) plan, with employer matching contributions), 11 paid federal holidays and annual/sick leave accrual. An overview of Federal Judiciary benefits is accessible at:

http://www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits



Employees of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas are excepted service appointments. Employees are considered at will and are not covered by federal civil service classifications or regulations. Immigration law requires public employers to hire individuals who are lawful permanent residents (i.e., green card holder) seeking U.S. citizenship. Employees must adhere to the Judiciary Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Due to the high volume of applicants received, the Court will only communicate with applicants who will be considered for interviews. Applicants selected for interviews must travel at their own expense, and relocation expenses will not be reimbursed.

Candidates who are selected for employment in the judiciary must successfully pass a background check or investigation as a condition of employment. The background check will include, at a minimum, an FBI fingerprint check. Full field investigations will be conducted on positions that are classified as high-sensitive. Once employed, the candidate may be subject to periodic background investigation updates.

The Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer:

The Court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, to withdraw the announcement, or to fill the position sooner than the closing date without prior notice. The U.S. District Court requires employees to adhere to a Code of Ethics and Conduct. This court provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and interviewing process, please notify the local human resources representative. Decisions on granting reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.



### How to Apply:

Qualified applicants may submit a detailed resume, letter of application (must clearly describe the applicant's management/leadership style and experience and address any other skills and/or training that make the applicant qualified to perform the duties of chief probation officer), salary history and the names and titles of three professional references who are personally familiar with the applicant's work, along with contact information for each reference (telephone number, e-mail address, and mailing address) email to: humanresources@txnd.uscourts.gov

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