

October 8, 2025
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
First Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois
Saline County, Illinois

POSITION:	Assistant Public Defender – Saline County, Illinois
EMPLOYER:	Saline County Office of the Public Defender
OFFICE:	Harrisburg, Illinois
BENEFITS:	An attractive benefits package is offered, including IMRF pension, medical, dental, vision and life insurance, and generous leave time.
SALARY:	Starting at \$75,000.00

JOB DESCRIPTION: Saline County’s Office of the Public Defender is seeking an assistant public defender to join our collaborative and creative team. If the idea of working in a fast-paced environment with the opportunity to try jury trials, this might be the opportunity you’ve been waiting for.

The job duties for this position involve handling all aspects of misdemeanor, juvenile, some felony, and other associated cases. This full-time position is a perfect opportunity not only to be actively involved in litigation, but also to provide an invaluable service to those who are in most need of quality legal representation.

Applicants should have strong trial advocacy skills, as well as strong research, writing, and negotiation skills, the ability to work well with others, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to both public service and representing individuals who are unable to afford legal counsel. Candidates must hold a JD from an ABA-accredited law school, be duly licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois, and be in good standing with the ARDC.

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is interested in both trial work and in making a real difference in people’s lives. Saline County is located in southeastern Illinois near the beautiful Shawnee National Forest. It is approximately a 30 minute drive to Marion, Illinois, a 60 minute drive to Paducah, Kentucky, and Evansville, Indiana, and is just over two hours from St. Louis, Missouri.

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please email a cover letter and resume to D. Brian Smith, Chief Public Defender, at bsmith@salinecounty.illinois.gov

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER