**Psychologist (Forensic Evaluation Service)**

**Salary:** $65 per hour

The Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) is currently seeking (3) three motivated and qualified psychologists to work in full-time contract positions as Forensic Evaluators with the Forensic Evaluation Service (FES) at Mississippi State Hospital (MSH). These positions are located on the MSH campus in Whitfield, MS, which is in the Jackson, MS, metro area. As the only state-operated forensic psychiatric service in Mississippi, FES provides outpatient and inpatient forensic mental health evaluations of adult criminal felony defendants for Mississippi Courts in all 82 counties across the state. DMH has been working to improve access to forensic services at MSH and to create a stratified system of forensic care for the State of Mississippi. Consequently, forensic services at MSH and in the community have been expanding and are expected to continue to expand. Successful candidates for this position should enjoy working in a fast-paced, challenging environment that requires flexibility and the ability to manage multiple demands.

**Primary Job Responsibilities:**

* Conducting forensic psychological evaluations of competence to proceed legally, mental state at the time of the alleged offense, competence to waive or assert relevant constitutional rights, and mitigation within specified timeframes
* Interviewing pretrial defendants and collateral informants either in-person or via telehealth
* Collecting and integrating information from several sources to produce high-quality, objective written reports for the courts
* Administering, scoring, and interpreting psychological testing
* Providing expert witness testimony
* Conducting and documenting risk assessments on patients transitioning to less structured environments

Forensic evaluators may also have the opportunity to serve on hospital committees, provide supervision to psychology trainees, provide didactics to psychology and/or psychiatry trainees, and participate in research.

**Benefits include:**

* Flexible Work Schedule
* Eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness
* Excellent camaraderie among evaluative and treatment staff
* Forensic evaluation and testimony training possible for qualified candidates with exceptional verbal and written communication skills

**Minimum Qualifications:**

* Doctorate in Psychology
* Licensure, or licensure eligibility, as a psychologist in Mississippi (if not licensed in MS at the time of hire, then must attain MS licensure within 12 months)
* Experience with assessment and diagnosis of individuals with serious and persistent mental illness
* Considerable knowledge of a range of psychological assessment instruments, including symptom validity/effort tests, objective personality measures, and intelligence tests
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills

Preference will be given to candidates with forensic fellowship training, experience as a forensic evaluator, or ABPP certification in Forensic Psychology. Individuals who have strong diagnostic and psychological assessment skills will be considered for on-the-job training in forensic evaluations.

*Upon contingent employment offer, employees must complete a MS State Personnel Board application, background check, pre-employment drug test, and submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination or accommodation request. If you are recommended for hire or promotion, you will be required to submit proof of the possession of the credentials (i.e. license certificate, official transcript) that you listed on your MS State Application. MSH has the authority to verify that the information recorded on your application is true and correct.*

**Interested applicants should direct inquiries to:** Amanda L. Gugliano, Psy.D.; Director, MSH Forensic Evaluation Service; at amanda.gugliano@msh.ms.gov or (601)351-8606.