

EXPLORE YOUR LEGAL CAREER WITH THE UNITED STATES COURTS

The United States Courts are composed of 13 circuits and 94 districts across the country, including appellate courts, district courts, bankruptcy courts, and courts of special jurisdiction, as well as probation and pretrial services offices and federal public defenders offices.

Gain valuable experience working as a judicial law clerk or staff attorney.

LAW CLERK



Work for one judge as a member of the chambers staff, or on behalf of the court for pro se, death penalty, or bankruptcy appellate panel cases



Term (1-4 years), temporary, or career positions



- Conduct legal research
- Prepare bench memos/orders
- Verify citations
- Assist a judge during courtroom proceedings
- Communicate with counsel regarding case management



Qualifications:

- Law school degree or certified as having completed all law school studies and requirements
- One or more of the following:
 - Upper third law school class standing
 - Editorial board experience
 - LLM degree
 - Proficiency in legal studies that is equivalent to basic qualifications in the opinion of the judge

STAFF ATTORNEY



Work for multiple judges in an appellate staff attorney office in a court of appeals



Term (1-4 years) or career positions



- Review case records/filings
- Conduct legal research
- Provide judges and panels with legal advice
- Prepare bench memos/orders
- Propose disposition of cases
- Draft opinions for panels



Qualifications:

- Law school degree or certified as having completed all law school studies/requirements
- Strong record of academic achievement
- Proficiency in legal research
- Superior writing and analytical ability
- Other qualifications as listed in the position announcement

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