Fall, Spring, and Summer Internships

Criminal Division
Appellate Section

U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC

The primary responsibilities of the Criminal Division's Appellate Section include drafting briefs and arguing cases in the federal Courts of Appeals; drafting briefs in the United States Supreme Court; and researching and writing memoranda recommending whether the Solicitor General should authorize an appeal, a petition for rehearing, or a petition for certiorari in criminal cases in which a court has ruled adversely to the United States. These cases present a variety of legal issues related to substantive criminal law, criminal procedure, and the rules of evidence, and often involve novel questions of constitutional and statutory interpretation.

Student interns assume substantial responsibility for preparing the Division's memoranda recommending whether to seek further review of adverse decisions, under the close supervision of Section Attorneys. This includes, in each case, researching and writing the Division's memorandum and maintaining contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Solicitor General's Office throughout the approval process. Student interns also assist Section attorneys with researching and writing briefs and are invited to participate in moot courts. If the Supreme Court is sitting during the student's internship, the intern will also have the opportunity to attend at least one Court session.

An offer of a position as a law student intern is contingent on completion of a background investigation. The internship is a volunteer position, but some schools will arrange law school credit. For the summer, we will accept students for a full-time internship of at least 8 weeks, though most students remain for 10 to 12 weeks. For the fall and spring semesters, we will accept students for a full-time internship or for a part-time internship if the student is available at least 15 hours per week.

To apply for an internship, please submit the following materials:

- a cover letter discussing specifically the candidate's interest in criminal law, appellate practice, or both;
- a resume;
- a writing sample not to exceed ten pages; and
- an official or unofficial copy of the candidate's most recent law school transcript (first-year students who have not yet received grades should submit a list of their courses).

Application materials should be submitted by e-mail to APP.Interns@usdoj.gov. Cover letters should be addressed to:

Intern Hiring Committee
Criminal Appellate Section
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 1264
Washington, D.C. 20530

Please submit all applications by the following deadlines:

- Applications for **summer** internships must be submitted by **December 7**;
- Applications for **fall** internships must be submitted by **May 1**;
- Applications for **spring** internships must be submitted by **October 1**.

Unfortunately, due to the volume of applications we receive, we may not be able to confirm receipt of applications or respond to all follow-up messages regarding the status of applications. Applicants are, however, encouraged to advise us of new developments (such as new grades or deadlines for accepting other offers).

The U.S. Department of Justice is an equal opportunity, reasonable accommodation employer.