

**UNITED STATES COURTS
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
POSITION RECRUITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Position Title:	CAREER STAFF ATTORNEY
Duty Station:	New Orleans, Louisiana
Salary Range:	CL - 27/25, \$57,982 - CL - 29/25, \$82,642 (depending upon experience)
Opening Date:	October 17, 2014
Closing Date:	November 14, 2014

The Staff Attorneys' Office for the Fifth Circuit is accepting applications for the position of Career Staff Attorney. To apply, please submit a letter of application, resume, law school transcript and a self-edited writing sample to:

Susan E. Buckel,
Staff Attorneys' Office
U.S. Courts, Fifth Judicial Circuit
600 South Maestri Place
New Orleans, LA 70130

The writing sample should reflect the writing and analytical skills solely of the applicant, and the applicant should be prepared to discuss it if called for an interview. The writing sample should not exceed 15 pages. Law review articles are not accepted.

Applicants who are interviewed will complete an on-site writing exercise on the day of the interview.

Position Overview

Staff attorneys work in a highly collegial environment. The position provides a unique opportunity to become acquainted with many areas of federal law.

Representative Duties

The Staff Attorneys' Office primarily screens direct criminal appeals, pro se prisoner cases, and immigration cases. Staff attorneys also prepare memoranda addressing federal and state pro se prisoner applications for certificates of appealability and for leave to proceed in forma pauperis. The work of staff attorneys is analogous to that of personal law clerks, except that the staff attorneys work for the Court as a whole, rather than for individual judges. Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Undergraduate degree from a college or university of recognized standing
- J.D. degree
- Strong analytical skills
- Law review or equivalent legal research experience

General computer skills such as familiarity with common software applications and operating systems is a plus.

Conditions of Employment

U.S. citizenship required, or must meet requirements under current law. Positions with the U.S. Courts are excepted service appointments, or “*at will*.” The initial appointment is provisional and contingent upon satisfactory completion of a background investigation. Direct deposit of pay required.

Benefits

Although not civil service employees, federal court employees share in most of the federal fringe benefit programs, including paid leave, holidays, health insurance, life insurance, retirement, long-term care insurance, vision and dental insurance, and the Thrift Savings Plan (similar to a 401k plan).

Fifth Circuit Profile

The Fifth Circuit is composed of the States of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi and represents the second largest circuit (both in case filings and authorized personnel) in the federal court system.

Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. The court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, withdraw the job announcement, fill the position(s) sooner than the closing date, or to extend the closing date, any of which actions may occur without any prior written or other notice.

*The Fifth Circuit is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Funding is not available to support interviewee travel.*