

Judicial Internships

For Summer and Fall 2008

by Dean Beassie

1/17/2008

Why intern?

- # Improve Writing & Research Skills
 - # Deepen Analytical Ability
 - # Observe Court Activity and Process
 - # Judicial Decision Making
 - # Networking
 - # Resume Value
 - Firms
 - Future Clerking Positions
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Etiquette to Applying for Internships

- # Proper etiquette is to accept the first offer from the first judge
- # Once you have accepted a position – withdraw you application from other judges
- # Therefore, seriously consider your applications.

What Courts should I consider?

- # Federal Court
 - Trial and LRW
 - Civil and Criminal
 - 5th Circuit, District Court, Magistrate, Bankruptcy
 - Each Judge has their own criteria



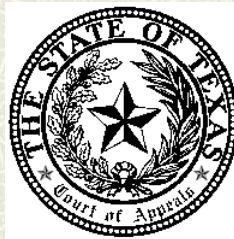
Texas Appellate Courts

- # Differences w/ Federal
- # Texas Supreme Court
- # Court of Criminal Appeals



Courts of Appeals

- # In Houston
 - 1st Court of Appeals
 - 14th Court of Appeals
- # In Austin
 - 3rd Court of Appeals
- # Check on other [appellate courts](#)



State Trial Level Courts



- # Civil
- # Criminal
- # County Court at Law
- # Type of Experience and Value

Specialty Courts



- # Family
- # Probate
- # Bankruptcy
- # Immigration
- # Other ALJs

How do I find a judicial internship?

- # Federal Judges - Symplicity
- # Lists in Office
- # Contacts on [clinic page](#)
- # Application to individual judge
 - Hard copy only! (OSCAR on Symplicity is for post-graduate clerkships)
 - Cover letter, resume, transcript, & writing sample
 - Address: Honorable First Name Last Name
 - Salutation: Dear Judge (or Justice) Last Name



A Word About Deadlines

- #Hurry
- # Federal Judges & Tex Supreme Court – apply now
 - Many filled by mid-February
- # Intermediate Appellate Courts
 - Apply by March 1
- # State Trial Level Courts – on-going applications

Can I get academic credit?

- # To apply for course
 - Must have completed 30 hours of law school
 - Must have a minimum 2.7 GPA at application
- # If you participate and pay for the courses
 - Can receive credit for any court located in Texas above JP level.
 - Courts outside of Texas, subject to approval.

Class Component

- # Judicial Process
- # Summer 2008 Class Dates
 - TBA – but plan on week of May 12th
- # Must Secure Placement then Apply for Class
 - www.law.uh.edu/clinic

How many credits?

- # Must work 60 hours for each hour of credit
- # Offer 3 or 4 hours of credit for internship (Judicial Process credit over and above)
- # Schedule is to be worked out between you and your judge
- # Financial Aid Concerns

I've heard Judges split the summer . . .

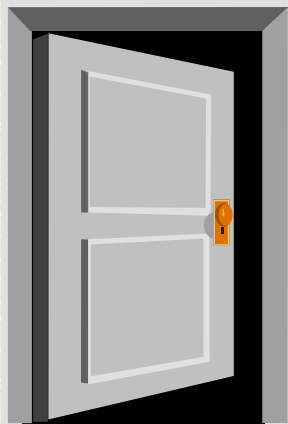
- # You can do a judicial internship and an Externship with a Non-Profit or Government Agency, or
- # Combine with Summer School, a job, or
- # You can coordinate with 2 judges
 - only need to take Judicial Process class once

And if I don't want academic credit?

- # Blask Fellowship
 - \$3,000 for 8 weeks
 - Federal Bar of South Texas
- # [HIPLA](#) Judicial Fellowship
- # [ABA Program](#) – Deadline Friday 1/18/08!
- # Volunteer

Fall Internships

- # Competition
- # Timing



More Questions

- # See FAQs online
- # See Prof. Bonadero during office hours
 - In the Blakely Office
 - Phone: 713-743-2531
 - Email (for now): erma_bonadero@yahoo.com
- # See Career Counselors