



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

**This is a part-time temporary position with an expected
end date of December 31, 2022**

POSITION: Part-time temporary Pro Se Staff Attorney
DUTY STATION: Baltimore or Greenbelt, depending on
Court needs; applicants should be prepared to work in
either division.

OPENING DATE: September 24, 2021
CLOSING DATE: Open Until Filled
with first preference given to those
who apply by October 25, 2021*

Applicants seeking job sharing and remote work will be considered.

PART-TIME

SALARY: JSP 11 = \$36,375 graduation from an accredited law school
JSP 12 = \$43,599 one year of post-law school graduation experience and bar membership
JSP 13 = \$51,845 two years of post-law school graduation experience and bar membership
JSP 14 = \$61,265 three years of post-law school graduation experience and bar membership

This part-time temporary Pro Se Staff Attorney position (20 hours per week) works directly under the supervision of a supervising staff attorney and the Chief Judge. The Staff Attorney provides assistance to all the district court judges regarding substantive legal and procedural review of prisoner civil rights litigation, including state and federal prisoner habeas corpus petitions, and also provides assistance to all the district court judges regarding substantive legal screening and initial processing of non-prisoner pro se civil litigation. Pro Se Staff Attorney positions are subject to available funding provided by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, dependent upon annual court filings.

Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Substantive screening of petitions and complaints.
- Drafting appropriate opinions and orders for review by District Judges, including motions to dismiss and for summary judgment, and final habeas opinions.
- Case management, including monitoring dockets to assure the proper progress of cases.
- Providing information, guidance, and advice to judges and chambers law clerks on legal issues relating to prisoner cases.
- Assisting staff with interpretation of pleadings filed by self-represented litigants.
- Performing other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

Required:

- Strong academic background and demonstrated research and writing ability.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, and the ability to work effectively with a variety of people either in person or on the phone.
- Excellent organizational skills and experience handling multiple tasks and projects.
- Ability to work with strict deadlines and in a fast-paced environment.
- Maturity, good judgment, and high ethical standards.
- Ability to work independently and as a team player, with a positive work attitude.

Preferred:

- Working knowledge of prisoner and constitutional law.
- Clerkship experience.
- Two years of legal work experience handling prisoner civil rights and/or habeas cases.

Federal Benefits:

- 11 paid holidays per year.
- Paid annual leave in the amount of 6 days per year (part-time employment) for the first three years; 10 days after three years (part-time employment) and 13 days after fifteen years (part-time employment) of federal service.
- Paid sick leave in the amount of 6 days per year for part-time employment.
- Telework possibilities if part of another judiciary position.
- Mandatory participation in the Federal Employees Retirement Program and the Social Security Retirement program.
- Optional participation in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Federal Employees Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance programs, Long Term Disability Plan, Long Term Care Insurance, Flexible Benefits programs and the Commuter Benefit program.

How to Apply:

Submit resume, writing sample, [AO-78 Application for Federal Employment](#) and a cover letter stating the reason for your interest in the position as a single PDF document to: jobs@mdd.uscourts.gov Include the job title for which you are applying in the subject header of the email.

Failure to submit a complete and signed cover letter, writing sample, resume and AO-78 will result in immediate disqualification. The Description of Work section of the AO-78 must be complete including salary information; merely indicating "see resume" is not acceptable. Incomplete applications will not be considered, returned or retained. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted and must travel at their own expense.

****To ensure first consideration, all information must be received at the above email address on or before 5:00 p.m. on October 25, 2021. Incomplete packets will not be considered.**

- Due to the volume of applications received, the court will only communicate with those individuals invited for an interview.
- The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All applications will be reviewed to identify the best qualified candidates.
- In the event a position becomes vacant in either division and in a similar classification within a reasonable time from the original announcement, the Clerk of Court may select an appointee from the candidates who responded to the initial announcement without posting the vacancy.

Conditions of Employment:

- Applicants must be a United States citizen or national or a permanent resident who is seeking citizenship in the United States. Successful candidate for this position is subject to a full fingerprint and background records check and mandatory electronic direct deposit of salary payment.
- This is a sensitive position within the Federal Judiciary. The selected candidate will be hired provisionally, pending the successful completion of the required background investigation and favorable employment suitability determination.
- Selected applicant will be required to complete a one-year probationary period. Failure to successfully complete the probationary period may result in termination of employment. Positions in the United States Courts are excepted appointments, are not under the Civil Service System, and are "at will" employees.
- Employees must adhere to the Code of Conduct of Judicial Employees which is available at: <http://www.uscourts.gov/RulesAndPolicies/CodeOfConduct.aspx>
- The court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, to withdraw the job announcement, and/or to commence interviews immediately, any of which actions may occur without prior written or other notice.
- All employees are required to be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus.