

Office of the
Federal Public Defender

District of Colorado

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Districts of Colorado and Wyoming

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INTERNSHIP INFORMATION

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Districts of Colorado and Wyoming provides indigent defendants with quality legal representation at all stages of litigation for offenses ranging from petty misdemeanors to serious felony offenses. The Denver and Cheyenne offices are staffed with Assistant Federal Public Defenders who work in either the trial or the appellate section, as well as investigators, paralegals, or support personnel. Typical caseloads include misdemeanors, felonies, probation revocations, and appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

The Defender office in both Denver and Cheyenne offer a limited number of non-salaried internships during the summer months, as well as during the fall and spring semester. Each intern will receive hands-on experience in the preparation of various stages of a client's defense. An intern may research legal issues, draft motions and memoranda, and otherwise assist in trial preparation. Interns may also work with the Defender's appellate attorneys. These interns will collaborate on briefs to the circuit court, *certiorari* petitions, and merit briefs to the Supreme Court.

A supervisory attorney will monitor intern assignments in each office, however, interns should expect to work with one or more of the attorneys during their placement. Summer interns are expected to work forty hours (40) per week in either five-to-six week blocks (for those who split their summer internships) or ten-to-twelve week blocks. School year interns are typically asked to commit to a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week.

All internships are unpaid, there is no promise of future employment for participation, and applicants must have completed two (2) years at an accredited law school to be considered.

Applicants are required to submit the following information for consideration: (1) a current resume including up to three references and your approximate class ranking, (2) a writing sample (5 pages or less), and (3) a letter of interest. Selected applicants will then be scheduled for an in-person interview. Please note that successful applicants must undergo background investigation, to include finger-printing. Successful applicants also must be able to demonstrate their eligibility to work in the United States by completing a Form I-9.

Application Deadlines:

- (1) Summer internship applications are due by **March 15th**.
- (2) Fall internship applications are due by **July 15th**.
- (3) Spring internship applications are due by **November 15th**.

Late applications will not be considered.

Applicants should mail their submissions to the below address (emailed applications will not be considered):

Federal Public Defender's Office
Attn: Matthew Belcher
633 17th Street, Suite 1000
Denver, Colorado 80202