



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Oregon

VACANCY #2014-10

POSITION:	Law Clerk	POSITION AVAILABLE:	December 29, 2014
TYPE:	Full-Time	POSTING DATE:	October 21, 2014
DUTY STATION:	Portland, Oregon	CLOSING DATE:	November 4, 2014
SALARY RANGE:	JSP 11-14 (\$61,126-\$133,833) <i>(Commensurate with qualifications/experience)</i>	Check the status of this position on the court's website at www.orb.uscourts.gov	

Judge Trish M. Brown of the United States Bankruptcy Court is now accepting applications for the full-time position of **LAW CLERK**. This position will be available December 29, 2014.

POSITION OVERVIEW:

The Law Clerk duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Perform legal research.
- Draft legal documents addressing various issues arising in bankruptcy proceedings.
- Assist the judge during court proceedings and review orders.
- Review motions, applications, petitions, complaints and other pleadings filed with the Court to determine the issues involved and the basis for relief.
- Draft proposed opinions, memorandum decisions, and orders.
- Review electronic case files and brief judge on critical issues prior to hearing and trials.
- Present cases and motions to judge and explain (orally and in writing) the proposed recommendation and any choices to be made.
- Provide administrative office functions such as editing, proofreading, telephone communication, written correspondence, and scheduling.
- Keep abreast of changes in the law and brief the judge.
- Occasional travel to attend hearings and conferences.
- Perform other day-to-day law clerk duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND PAY SETTING:

To be qualified for appointment to the position of Law Clerk, candidates must meet the following education and experience requirements.

Qualifications:

To qualify for the position of law clerk on the personal staff of a federal judge, a person must be a law school graduate (or be certified as having completed all law school studies and requirements and merely awaiting conferment of degree) from a law school of recognized standing, and have demonstrated one of the following accomplishments or proficiencies:

- Standing within the upper third of the law school class from a law school on the approved list of either the American Bar Association or the Association of American Law Schools;
- Experience on the editorial board of a law review of such a school;
- Graduation from such a school with an LLM degree; or
- Proficiency in legal studies that, in the opinion of the judge, is the equivalent of one of the above. Some examples of criteria that are considered to be acceptable as equivalent include:
 - Publication of a noteworthy article in a law school student publication or other scholarly publication;
 - Special high-level honors for academic excellence in law school, such as election to the Order of the Coif;
 - Winning of a moot court competition or membership on a moot court team that represents the law school in competition with other law schools;
 - Participation in the legal aid or other law school clinical program sanctioned by the law school;* or
 - Summer experience as a law clerk to a state or local judge or law clerk experience on a continuing basis in a private firm while attending school, i.e., working one's way through college.*

(*To receive credit, participation and experience could not have been for *academic credit*.)

This list is not all-inclusive; the determination of an acceptable equivalence rests with the appointing judge.

Pay Setting:

Legal Work Experience

Legal work experience is progressively responsible experience in the practice of law, in legal research, legal administration, or equivalent experience received after graduation from law school. Major or substantial legal activities while on military duty may be credited, on a month-for-month basis whether before or after graduation, but not to exceed one year if before graduation from law school.

The table below shows the number of years of legal work experience required to qualify for appointment as a law clerk at the applicable JSP grade level. Please note that appointment to a JSP-12 or above requires that the candidate be a member of the bar of a state, territory, or federal court of general jurisdiction.

JSP Grade Level	Years of legal work experience	Bar Required
11	0	No
12	1	Yes
13	2	Yes
14	3	Yes
<p><i>Note: 2 of the 3 required years of legal work experience must have been served in the federal judiciary as a chambers law clerk, staff attorney, pro se law clerk, bankruptcy appellate law clerk, or death penalty law clerk.</i></p>		

Additional Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Have experience in bankruptcy law.
- Must possess excellent written and oral communication, proof reading, and administrative skills.
- Strong organizational, analytic, customer service skills, and attention to detail.
- Must have the ability to relate well with others in a small chambers group and maintain good rapport with the clerk's office and the Bar.
- Maturity, good judgment, high ethical standards and a positive work attitude.
- Ability to multitask and consistently meet deadlines and targeted goals.
- Excellent computer proficiency, including computer-assisted research skills and the ability to learn the court's software programs, toggle between various open software programs, and work with electronic files and folders.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Ability to telework from home or alternate work location.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The following is a list of required application documents that must be submitted in the following order in **a single PDF file** and emailed to **hr@orb.uscourts.gov**

- **Cover letter:**
 - Reference job vacancy number **#2014-10**
 - Include an email address in your contact information
- **Chronological resume which includes:**
 - education
 - class rank and honors
 - work history
 - names and addresses of employers
 - dates of employment
 - work performed
 - number and composition of personnel supervised, if any
 - significant accomplishments
- **Transcripts**
- **Writing Sample**
- **Application for Judicial Branch Federal Employment (Form AO 78) available at: www.uscourts.gov/forms/AO078.pdf (After completing the form, please ensure the content you provided saved properly and the form is not blank when you submit with your application documents.)**

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or eligible to work in the United States.
- This is a sensitive position within the Judiciary. The successful candidate is hired provisionally, pending the results of an FBI fingerprint and criminal background check.
- Employees must adhere to the Code of Conduct of Judicial Employees which is available at: http://www.uscourts.gov/RulesAndPolicies/CodesOfConduct.aspx
- Excepted service appointments are AT WILL and can be terminated with or without cause by the court.
- This position is subject to mandatory Electronic Funds Transfer participation for payment of net pay.
- The best qualified will be contacted for interviews. Candidates for interviews may travel at their own expense or be interviewed via telephone and/or videoconference.
- Resumes or enclosures will not be returned.
- This announcement is posted on the court's internet web site at www.orb.uscourts.gov

BENEFITS

The judiciary offers a number of exceptional benefits to its employees. As a judiciary employee, you may be eligible to participate in the following benefits programs:

Health Insurance - The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) offers several plans. FEHB offers Fee-For-Service, Health Maintenance Organization, and Health Savings Account plans to meet individual health needs.

Life Insurance - The Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program (FEGLI) offers basic life insurance plus three types of optional insurance.

Retirement Program - Judiciary employees are covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). Almost all new employees are automatically covered by FERS which is a three-tiered retirement plan. The three tiers are: Basic Benefit Plan, Social Security Benefits, and the Thrift Savings Plan.

Thrift Savings Plan - The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is a retirement savings and investment plan for federal employees, similar to the 401(k) plans many private corporations offer their employees.

Dental and Vision Insurance - The Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) offers supplemental dental and vision benefits available to Federal employees and eligible family members.

Judiciary Long-Term Care Insurance Program - The judiciary's Long-Term Care Program administered by CNA provides long term care insurance for judiciary employees and their spouses, parents, parents-in-law, stepparents, grandparents, and grandparents-in-law.

Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program - The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTICIP) offered by the Office of Personnel Management provides long term care insurance for federal employees and their parents, parents-in-law, stepparents, spouses, and adult children.

Leave - The federal leave program offers time off benefits including, annual leave and sick leave, ten (10) paid holidays per year, Family Friendly Leave, Family Medical Leave and a leave sharing program.

Flexible Spending Accounts - The judiciary's Flexible Spending Accounts Program allows employees to pay for certain health and dependent care expenses with pre-tax dollars.

Commuter Benefit Program – The Commuter Benefit Program allows eligible employees to defray commuting costs by providing tax-free commuter benefit for employees who use qualifying public transportation. The program also offers a Parking Reimbursement Account that allows employees to pay for certain parking expenses with pre-tax dollars.

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon is an Equal Opportunity Employer