

Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office



Externship & Career Prosecutor Program

Summer 2014

Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office Externship & Career Prosecutor Program

❖ Our Goal

This program is for law students who want to be career prosecutors. The selected law students will work with Assistant Solicitors preparing and prosecuting cases. Through this hands-on approach, students will gain valuable experience that will prepare them for work in any prosecutor's office.

❖ Requirements

- Must be a rising 3rd year law student
- Must be certified by the Dean as being of good character and competent legal ability
- Must be familiar with the Rules of Professional Conduct
- Must desire to become a career prosecutor

❖ Description of Externship/Career Prosecution Program

➤ Intensive Training Session covering the following topics:

- Ethics
 - “[The prosecutor] is in a peculiar and very definite sense the servant of the law, the twofold aim of which is that guilt shall not escape or innocence suffer. He may prosecute with earnestness and vigor – indeed, he should do so. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one.” *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88, 55 S. Ct. 629, 633 (1935).
 - Preparation
 - Attending Bond Court
 - Meeting with Law Enforcement and other Witnesses
 - Determining the strength and weaknesses of your case
 - Preparing a Case Analysis
 - Developing a reasonable offer
 - Disposition
 - Plea
 - Trial
- #### ➤ Hands-On Prosecution
- Students will be provided cases that they can work from arrest to disposition.
 - Students will be asked to research and prepare memorandums on pre-trial issues.
 - **These projects will be used to satisfy the writing requirement for the Externship Course.**
 - Assisting with trials in General Sessions Court.

❖ Hours and Housing Information:

- Hours for the externship program are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Housing will be made available through the University of South Carolina Beaufort Campus at a cost of \$20 per day to the student. Students in need of housing will need to reference this in their cover letter.

❖ **Contact Information and Documents Required:**

- Students should send the following items to the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office, Attention Mary Jordan Lempesis, P.O. Box 1880, Bluffton, SC, 29910, or via email to mlempesis@bcgov.net.
 - Cover letter
 - Resume
 - Unofficial transcript
 - Certification from the Dean of the University of South Carolina School of Law certifying student as being of good character and competent legal ability (as required by Rule 401(d)(3) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules).
 - Letter certifying in writing that the student is familiar with, and will be governed by the Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Supreme Court (as required by Rule 401(d)(5) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules).