



TEXAS DEFENDER SERVICE SUMMER 2022 INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY AUSTIN, TX and HOUSTON, TX

Texas Defender Service (TDS) seeks talented law students committed to capital defense work to serve as summer law clerks in Summer 2022.

TDS ensures that defendants charged with capital murder receive the best possible representation at the pre-trial, trial, and post-conviction stages of their cases. TDS lawyers and mitigation specialists regularly consult with defense teams on trial strategies, legal briefing, mitigation investigation, forensic evidence, expert witnesses, voir dire, and other issues that arise during the pre-trial and trial stages. TDS also provides direct representation in direct appeals and state and federal habeas corpus litigation. Additionally, TDS lawyers and mitigation specialists do investigation in preparation for post-conviction briefing.

INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW

TDS seeks law students for full-time summer internships to assist in all aspects of TDS's work.

- **Time Commitment:** A Summer internship requires a full-time commitment of 40 hours per week
- **Duration:** Full-time internships are 10 weeks. If you are selected for an interview, you will be able to discuss start date options at that time
- **Location:** Austin, TX or Houston, TX

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Responsibilities and opportunities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performing high-level legal research and briefing;
- Drafting legal pleadings;
- Analyzing and collecting data for cases and advocacy work;
- Carrying out ground-level intensive investigative work and records reviews;
- Attending local trainings, hearings, trials, and oral arguments; and
- Receiving training on conducting mitigation investigations in capital cases both in preparation for trial and post-conviction briefing.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must be enrolled in a J.D. or L.L.M. program. TDS strongly encourages 1L students (rising 2Ls) to apply. Candidates must possess:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- The ability to work as part of a team and individually;
- Interpersonal skills and the ability to work well with others in a team-based approach;
- The capacity to receive feedback and apply it to assignments;
- The willingness to do a variety of tasks; and
- A firm belief in the need for unflinching, zealous advocacy on behalf of all indigent persons facing or under a sentence of death.

HOW TO APPLY

Send a complete application package to Estelle Hebron-Jones (ehebron-jones@texasdefender.org). A complete application includes:

- A cover letter explaining why you are interested in an internship with TDS;
- resume;
- law school transcript;
- writing sample; and
- a list of two references.

Please do not send incomplete applications or extraneous materials with your application. Only complete applications will be considered.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and accepted until the positions are filled or March 31, 2022, whichever is earlier.

Internships are unpaid, but TDS will provide any necessary documentation or assistance in applications for scholarships or fellowships.

This posting provides a general but not comprehensive list of the opportunities of the internship, and TDS reserves the right to change the posting at any time without advance notice.

