

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

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# NOTICE OF JOB OPPORTUNITY Courtroom Deputy for District Judge

Vacancy Announcement #: 2023-16

**ANNOUNCEMENT DATE:** November 17, 2023

CLOSING DATE: Preference given to applications submitted by December 1, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

Central Time.

**POSITION:** Courtroom Deputy, Full-time

**STARTING LEVEL/SALARY:** CL 27 (\$59,958 - \$97,496/annually) – 2023 rates

**AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** Internal and External

LOCATION: St. Paul, MN

#### **POSITION OVERVIEW**

The U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota is seeking a Courtroom Deputy for District Court Judge Jerry W. Blackwell, in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Courtroom Deputy performs general and specialized court and courtroom functions, to include calendaring and/or similar courtroom services work. The duties involve managing the judge's caseload, attending and logging court proceedings, and processing orders. This job requires a high level of knowledge and complexity regarding court and courtroom operations. In addition, the person in this position must be able to function at a fully proficient level of courtroom work, including complete calendar and other reporting responsibilities. The person selected for the position must be a professional with excellent organizational and interpersonal skills, and a high attention to detail. The typical work schedule for this position is Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (additional hours may be required).

# **REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES**

- Manage judge's cases by calendaring, distributing, monitoring, and enforcing deadlines.
   Monitor filing of pertinent documents. Provide timely responses to judicial orders.
- Serve as primary source of information on scheduling conferences, hearings, trials, and other case processes.



- Manage and organize exhibits used in court proceedings, including setting up and troubleshooting electronic evidence presentation systems. Attend court sessions and conferences. Assist with the orderly flow of proceedings including, but not limited to, setting up the courtroom, assuring presence of all necessary participants, and managing exhibits. Take notes of proceedings, rulings, notices and prepare minute entries electronically.
- Review cases or reports for necessary actions.
- Calendar and regulate case movement. Keep judge and immediate staff informed of case progress. Assist the judge and parties in jury selection and maintain records of jury selection and attendance. Act as liaison between the clerk's office, the bar, the public and the judge to ensure that cases proceed smoothly and efficiently. Maintain contact with counsel during deliberations.
- Schedule interpreters. Refer defendants to probation office as appropriate.
- Draft orders and judgments for the judge's approval including judgment commitment orders. Docket orders, pleadings, judgments, and minutes as directed by local court policy, utilizing applicable automated systems. Inform jury clerk of upcoming trials, needs for jurors, etc.
- Coordinate hearings. Assist in the accurate statistical reporting requirements of the Administrative Office. Review the quality of electronically filed documents, ensuring that all orders and automated entries are appropriately and accurately docketed, and make summary entries on the docket of all documents and proceedings.
- Review CJA eVoucher emails and forward on to judge for processing.
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the courtroom, maintain courtroom and jury room supplies, and handle routine office matters, e.g., handling mail.
- Manage chambers' internal criminal files, and civil and criminal case management, including the coordination with law clerks and communication with other chambers regarding case-related issues.
- Maintain the judge's day-to-day calendar. Arrange meetings, conferences, private attorney admissions and naturalization ceremonies as well as wedding ceremonies over which the judge may preside.
- Greet callers both in person and over the phone. Respond to inquiries and direct callers to the appropriate court staff.
- Assist with incoming and exiting law clerk logistics and extern onboarding.
- Prepare and maintain the judge's travel itineraries and arrangements. Prepare and submit travel vouchers on behalf of the judge and law clerks.
- Prepare and file required reports on the judge's behalf, including the Financial Disclosure Report, the Governance and Travel Report, and other reports as required.
- Other duties as assigned.

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#### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- High school diploma or equivalent; and
- Two years of general administrative experience; and
- Two years of specialized experience. Specialized experience is progressively responsible clerical or administrative experience requiring the regular and recurring application of clerical procedures that demonstrate the ability to apply a body of rules, regulations, directives, or laws and involve the routine use of specialized terminology and automated software and equipment for word processing, data entry or report generation.

#### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Paralegal degree and experience.
- Prior courtroom deputy, court, or legal experience is highly desired.
- Bachelor's Degree.
- Excellent computer and typing skills including skills in word processing (MS Word and Excel), proficiency with the databases, scanning and uploading documents, email, and web browsers.
- Excellent organization, analytical, oral and written communication skills, including the use of proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Self-starter, good tact and judgment, discretion, and professional demeanor.
- Experience in a fast-paced and demanding environment dealing with diverse legal issues.
- Experience coordinating and prioritizing the flow of work in a team-based environment.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS**

- Work is performed primarily in an office setting or courtroom.
- Some travel may be required.
- Some lifting may be required to handle and set up equipment in the courtroom.

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

To apply, email the PDF documents to <a href="https://hr-usdc@mnd.uscourts.gov">hr-usdc@mnd.uscourts.gov</a> and add "2023-16 Courtroom Deputy position" in the email subject line.

#### Please include the following in PDF format:

- Application for Employment (AO78) Found here -<a href="https://www.uscourts.gov/forms/human-resources-forms/application-judicial-branch-federal-employment">https://www.uscourts.gov/forms/human-resources-forms/application-judicial-branch-federal-employment</a>;
- Resume; and
- Name and contact information for three (3) professional references.

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All application materials received will be reviewed to identify the best qualified candidates. Only applicants selected to proceed to the next phase of the selection process will be notified. All application materials must be attached to the email as directed.

If interviews are held in person, applicants are responsible for any travel costs.

The U.S. District Court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, to withdraw the announcement, and to fill the position sooner than the closing date, if a closing date is shown, any of which actions may occur without prior written notice.

## **CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents seeking U.S. citizenship. Noncitizens must execute an affidavit indicating their intent to apply for citizenship when they become eligible to do so. Judiciary employees serve under excepted appointments and are considered "at-will" and may be terminated with or without cause or notice by the court.

The U.S. District Court requires employees to adhere to the <u>Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees</u>.

This position is subject to mandatory Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) for payroll deposit.

The final candidate is subject to FBI Fingerprinting and a background investigation, including criminal history. Employment is provisional and contingent upon a successful background check.

## **BENEFITS**

- The opportunity to serve in a rewarding public service position.
- Accrual of paid vacation and sick leave.
- 11 paid federal holidays.
- Extensive health, life, dental, vision, and long-term care insurance plans.
- A defined benefit pension plan.
- Traditional (pre-tax) and Roth (after-tax) retirement savings and investment plans through the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) with employer matching contributions.
- Pre-tax transportation, medical, and childcare reimbursement accounts.
- Transit Subsidy Program.
- On-site fitness center.

Employees of the U.S. District Court are not classified under Civil Service.

The U.S. District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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