

Judicial Internship/Externship Summer 2018 (unpaid)

Chambers of Justice Mike Willson, Texas Court of Appeals, 11th District, Eastland, Texas

Justice Mike Willson seeks judicial interns or externs for Summer 2018. The Eleventh Court of Appeals is a three-justice, intermediate appellate court in Eastland, Texas. The Court reviews both civil and criminal cases as well as other appellate matters. The Court hears oral arguments in Eastland, but the justices also hear arguments in Midland and other district locations. For cases transferred from other appellate districts, the Court holds oral arguments in those districts. Justice Willson has his primary office in Eastland, but he also maintains an office in Midland.

Program Details: The program provides an opportunity to improve research and writing skills and affords a “behind-the-scenes” view of how an intermediate court of appeals works. Participants will research factual and legal issues, review appellate records, and perform substantive citation checks. Participants will also write memoranda of law, discuss those memoranda with the justices and the Court’s attorneys, and observe the justices’ discussions of issues in submitted cases. Participants may also observe oral argument and post-submission resolution of legal issues raised in oral argument.

Location: Students selected for the program generally work in Eastland. Externship credit is an option for students who have completed one year of law school and meet their law school’s externship requirements.

Participation Requirements: Non-credit interns are expected to complete 25-30 hours per week for at least six weeks during the summer. Participants who seek course credit also must agree to at work least six weeks and agree to complete the minimum number of service hours in accordance with their law school’s externship requirements. Students accepted into the program must take the Court’s confidentiality oath at the beginning of the program and must attend an orientation session. The Court will provide participants access to court workstations, court files, and legal research materials.

Application Package: Interested students should submit: (1) a cover letter, (2) resume, (3) copy of law school transcript, (4) a list of three references with contact information, and (5) a writing sample (ten pages or less) to the Court Clerk, Sherry Williamson at sherry.williamson@txcourts.gov. Students do not have to complete a State of Texas Employment Application.

Application Period: The Court is accepting applications and will review applications and conduct interviews in the next forty-five days. The positions will remain open until filled, but interested students should apply now. The Court will review complete applications when they are received. The Court will not accept or review applications once the positions are filled.

Note: Summer positions are unpaid and provide no state-employee benefits. Participants are responsible for their own housing, transportation, and other living expenses. In addition, should a student wish to complete any legal work for anyone other than the Court during his or her participation in the program, the student must submit the project to a conflict check with the Court Clerk and the project must be approved in advance by the Court.