

United States District Court, Southern District of Florida
Notice of Vacancy

Position Title: Term Law Clerk to U. S. Magistrate Judge Alicia M. Otazo-Reyes
Number of Vacancies: One full-time position
This is a term appointment with length of employment expected to last two years
Ann. No: 2014-JDS-08
Location: Miami, Florida
Salary Range: Commensurate with Legal Work Experience, additional information provided below
Open Date: August 26, 2014
Closing Date: September 30, 2014
Estimated Start Date: September 2015

There is a lifetime limitation of four (4) cumulative years of term clerkship service with the United States Courts. Service as a career law clerk or as a temporary law clerk is not charged against the four year lifetime limitation.

Position Overview

Law Clerk responsibilities: Enjoys full responsibility for all aspects of assigned civil and criminal cases from inception to conclusion. Reviews complaints, petitions, motions, and pleadings that have been filed to identify and analyze the issues involved and basis for relief; performs legal research as required; identifies problem areas, makes recommendations, and offers solutions in assigned cases; provides information and advice to the Judge in connection with pending litigation; drafts appropriate recommendations and substantive orders; keeps abreast of changes in the law to aid the Judge in keeping current; and performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications/Requirements

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 one or more of the following attributes:

- 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
- Demonstrated proficiency in legal studies which in the opinion of the judge is the equivalent of one of the above.

Court Preferred Skills:

- Excellent legal research and writing skills.
- Proficient computer skills, internet research, and word processing skills including use of Microsoft Word.
- Familiarity with CM/ECF.

Salary

The pay rate offered is subject to Judicial Officer approval.

Eligible for Appointment at JSP Grade Level:	Years of Legal Work Experience Required after Law School Graduation:	Bar Membership Required
JSP Grade 11, Step 1 (\$61,349)	0	No
JSP Grade 12, Step 1 (\$73,533)	1 Full-Time Year	Yes
JSP Grade 13, Step 1 (\$87,441)	2 Full-Time Years	Yes
JSP Grade 14*	3 Full-Time Years	Yes

**Availability of the JSP Grade 14 pay rate is subject to restrictions of the Judicial Salary Plan pay system as no judge may increase to more than one the number of chambers law clerks paid at the rate of JSP 14 or above. In addition, appointment at or promotion to JSP Grade 14, requires two years of federal chambers law clerk, staff attorney, pro se law clerk, bankruptcy appellate panel law clerk, or death penalty law clerk experience.*

Legal Work Experience

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 in military service 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.

Personal Characteristics

The successful candidate is mature, responsible, poised, tactful, exercises good judgment, uses initiative, and maintains a professional appearance and demeanor at all times. Candidate is also able to work harmoniously with others and communicates effectively, both orally and in writing.

Background Check

This is a Sensitive position within the Judiciary. The selected candidate will be subject to a criminal history background check and a technical fingerprint check through the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division database as a condition of employment. Employment will be considered provisional until the background check is completed.

Benefits

The following benefits are available to Term Law Clerks appointed for at least one year and one day:

- Ten paid national holidays per calendar year.
- Participation in a pre-tax Federal Employees Health Insurance Program.
- Participation in group insurance programs in the areas of: Dental/Vision, Life, Long Term Care, Long Term Disability.
- Participation in a pre-tax Flexible Spending Account.

How To Apply

A complete application consists of all of the following items:

- A detailed resume that includes exact dates of employment and salary history,
- Copy of the final law school transcript showing month/day/year that the JD was conferred,
- Proof of bar membership, if applicable,
- List of references (minimum of 3),
- Legal writing sample.

Please submit all application documents either via e-mail or by mail as follows:

Email address: Otazo-Reyes_Applicants@flsd.uscourts.gov

Mailing Address: Chambers of U. S. Magistrate Judge Alicia M. Otazo-Reyes
301 North Miami Avenue, 10th Floor
Miami FL 33128

Employment with the United States Courts

Employees of the United States District Court serve under "Excepted Appointment" and are considered "At-Will" employees. The Federal Courthouse and Chambers are designated as non-smoking areas. EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) is mandatory therefore, payment for net pay (paycheck) is issued via direct deposit.

The Federal Court practices zero tolerance for illegal drug use.

The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.