

NOTICE OF VACANCY



400 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33128

Website: www.flsd.uscourts.gov

Phone: (305) 523-5980 – Human Resources

Position: Law Clerk to U.S. District Judge Jose E. Martinez
Ann. No: 2026-JDS-15
No. Vacancy: One Full-Time Position
Duty Station: Miami, FL
Salary: Commensurate with Legal Work Experience

This is a full-time position for a minimum one-year term appointment with the possibility for a longer term. 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 this position, 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 at least one 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;
- Law review or other legal journal experience at such a school;
- Moot court or mock trial competition experience at such a school; or
- Demonstrated proficiency in legal studies which in the opinion of the judge is the equivalent to one of the above.



Important Dates

Opening: 5/28/2026

Closing: Open Until Filled

Start Date: December 2026

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida is comprised of eighteen authorized United States District Judges, nine Senior United States District Judges, sixteen full-time United States Magistrate Judges and one recalled United States Magistrate Judge. The District spans a geographical area that encompasses nine counties, at its southernmost includes Monroe County and at its northernmost includes Indian River County. The Clerk's Office maintains its headquarters in downtown Miami and includes four divisional courthouses.

Court Preferred Skills:

- Prior Federal Clerkship experience is highly desired
- At least one (preferably two) years of legal work experience is strongly preferred
- Must possess at least two of the attributes listed above as qualifications/requirements;
- Must have outstanding legal research and writing skills; and
- Proficient computer skills, internet research, and word processing skills.

Salary

The pay rate offered is subject to Judicial Officer approval.

<u>JSP Grade Level</u>	<u>Legal Work Experience</u>	<u>Bar Membership</u>
JSP Grade 11 - \$79,533	0	No
JSP Grade 12 - \$95,326	1 Full-Time Year	Yes
JSP Grade 13 - \$113,356	2 Full-Time Years	Yes

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, and 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 Investigation & Fair Chance to Compete Act

This is a Sensitive position within the judiciary. This position is **not** covered under the FCA. Therefore, candidates may be asked to provide verbal or written statements about criminal history prior to receiving a conditional job offer. The selected candidate will be subject to a criminal 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 a background check is completed.

Benefits

Employees of the United States District Court are Excepted Appointments and considered At-Will judicial employees. Federal Government Civil Service classifications or regulations do not apply. Electronic direct deposit of salary payments is mandatory. Term Law Clerks appointed for at least one year and one day are eligible for ten paid national holidays per calendar year; participation in a pre-tax Federal Employees Health Insurance Program; may sign up for a pre-tax Flexible Spending Account; and may elect coverage in group insurance programs for Dental, Vision, Life, and Long-Term Disability.



How to Apply

Submit complete Application package electronically in pdf-format. The required items must be consolidated into one document in the order listed below. Do not copy/paste your documents into the email.

Please **write "Law Clerk Application"** in subject line and email to: martinez@flsd.uscourts.gov

A complete Application includes:

1. Detailed Resume;
2. Copy of complete law school transcript
3. Copy of undergraduate transcript;
4. List of References (min of 3); and
5. One Legal Writing Sample.

The Federal Court practices zero tolerance for illegal drug use.

Applicants must be United States Citizens or eligible to work in the United States.

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.