

**UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF LAW EXTERNSHIP COURSE  
DESCRIPTIONS OF ANTICIPATED SPRING 2023 EXTERNSHIP FIELD PLACEMENTS**

**JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS – U.S. COURTS**

- U.S. District Court for the Western District of TN (2 or 3 Cdts/8 or 12 weekly hours)
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of TN (2 or 3 Cdts/8 or 12 wkly hrs)

**JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS – TENNESSEE STATE COURTS (2 or 3 Cdts/8 or 12 weekly hrs)**

- Shelby County Circuit Court
- Shelby County Chancery Court

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXTERNSHIPS**

- U.S. Attorney’s Office\* (3 Credits/12 weekly hours) (Must be current 3L to apply)
- Federal Public Defender’s Office (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 weekly hours)
- Shelby County District Attorney General’s Office\* (2 or 3 Cdts/8 or 12 wkly hours)
- Shelby County Public Defender’s Office (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)

**STATE/MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT EXTERNSHIPS (2 or 3 Cdts/8 or 12 hrs)**

- Memphis City Attorney’s Office
  - Litigation Unit
  - Transactional Unit
- Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority (General Counsel)
- Tennessee Attorney General’s Office – Consumer Protection Externship

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT/ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY EXTERNSHIPS**

- Equal Employment Opp’y Commission (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)
    - Hearings Unit
    - Legal Unit
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of Counsel (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)
- \*\*APPLICATION DEADLINE OF FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7\*\***

**HEALTH PRACTICE EXTERNSHIPS**

- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital\* (3 or 4 Credits/12 or 8 weekly hours)
- Baptist Memorial Healthcare Corporation\* (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)
  - General Legal
  - Labor & Employment
- Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare\* (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)
- Regional One Health (The Med)\* (3 Credits/12 weekly hours)

**COMMUNITY LEGAL OFFICE EXTERNSHIPS (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 weekly hours)**

- Advocates for Immigrant Rights
- Bass, Berry, & Sims Pro Bono Program
- Community Legal Center – Immigrant Justice Program
- Disability Rights Tennessee
- Legal Aid of Arkansas – West Memphis Office

**COMMUNITY LEGAL OFFICE EXTERNSHIPS (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 weekly hours) (cont.)**

- Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS)**
  - Fair Housing Center**
  - Family Law Unit**
  - Low Income Taxpayer Unit**
- Mid-South Immigration Advocates**
  - Asylum/Deportation Defense**
  - Survivors' Project (Orders of Protection, Family Law)**
- West Tennessee Legal Services (Jackson, TN)**
- The Works, Inc./Neighborhood Preservation, Inc.**

**IN-HOUSE EXTERNSHIPS**

- Ducks Unlimited - Office of Land Protection (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 weekly hours)**
- FedEx Logistics, Inc. - Legal Department\* (3 Credits/12 hours)**
  - General Placement**
  - Commercial Real Estate Placement**
- Orion Federal Credit Union - Office of General Counsel (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 wkly hours)**
- Memphis-Shelby County Schools\* - Office of General Counsel (3 Credits/8 hours)**
- University of Memphis Office of Athletic Compliance (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 wkly hours)**
- University of Memphis Office of University Counsel (3 Credits/12 hours)**
- University of Tennessee Research Foundation (2 or 3 Credits/8 or 12 weekly hours)**

## **SPRING 2023 EXTERNSHIP COURSE – FIELD PLACEMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

### **JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS – U.S. COURTS**

#### **U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee**

#### **U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee**

Students are placed as externs in the United States Courts for the Western District of Tennessee. Each student is assigned to the chambers of a U.S. District Court Judge, a U.S. Magistrate Judge, or a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge. Judicial externs have a unique opportunity to learn about the process of judicial decision-making while working with Court staff and observing in the courtroom. Responsibilities vary from chambers to chambers, but have in common an emphasis on legal research and writing, including the preparation of bench memoranda, and assistance with pretrial, trial and post-trial motions and judicial opinions. Externs gain broad exposure to litigation strategies and advocacy skills, as well as trial court practice and procedure.

*Preferred Course(s) (satisfied by prior or concurrent enrollment):*

For Bankruptcy Court: Debtor-Creditor or Secured Transactions

### **JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS – TENNESSEE STATE COURTS**

#### **Tennessee Trial Courts**

Students are placed as externs in a trial-level court in Shelby County. Each student is assigned to the chambers of a Shelby County Circuit Court Judge or a Shelby County Chancery Court Chancellor. Judicial externs have a unique opportunity to learn about the process of judicial decision-making while working with the Judge and court staff and through observation in the courtroom. Responsibilities vary from chambers to chambers, but have in common an emphasis on legal research and writing, including the preparation of bench memoranda, and assistance with pretrial, trial and post-trial motions and judicial opinions. Externs gain broad exposure to a various litigation strategies and advocacy skills, as well as trial court practice and procedure.

*IMPORTANT:* Externs must be available on Friday mornings for Motions Dockets.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXTERNSHIPS**

#### **United States Attorney's Office (3L Students Only)**

In this externship, students are placed in the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee. The United States Attorney's Office serves as the principal litigator for its judicial district and is responsible for coordinating multiple agency investigations within the district. The United States Attorney's Office prosecutes violations of federal criminal statutes, defends the government in civil actions, seeks enforcement of a variety of civil enforcement statutes, and institutes proceedings for the collection of fines and penalties. Typical assignments for externs will involve assisting with all aspects of case preparation, including researching legal issues, drafting/writing motions, briefs, responses and various pleadings, providing trial support to Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and assembling exhibits for trial. Students also observe trials in the District Court and appellate arguments at the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

*Preferred Course(s) (satisfied by prior or concurrent enrollment):* Evidence, Professional Responsibility, Criminal Procedure.

*General Prerequisite:* Applicants must have completed their second year of law school (i.e., must be 3L students) by the start of the externship.

*Background Check:* Students must be able to pass a rigorous background check that will grant them security clearance to work in this office. The background check will require that students

answer questions under oath regarding any illegal drug use (past or present), alcohol abuse, criminal history (including DUI, assault, etc.), credit history, past employment history and mental health.

### **Shelby County District Attorney General's Office**

In this externship, students are placed in the Office of the Shelby County District Attorney General. Each extern is assigned to one of the many specialized units of the DA's Office and works under the supervision of a prosecutor within the assigned unit. Responsibilities assigned to externs may include such tasks as researching and preparing pre-trial memoranda, responding to criminal defense motions, and contacting victims and witnesses regarding interviews, trial dates and various other matters. Externs may also prepare trial exhibits and observe felony jury trials. In most instances, externs handle limited court matters (e.g., preliminary hearings) under the supervision of a supervising prosecutor, provided the extern is certified under Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

*Credits Prerequisite:* Must have completed at least 45 credits.

*Course Prerequisites/Co-Requisites:* Professional Responsibility, Evidence; Criminal Procedure.

*Preferred Course(s) (satisfied by prior or concurrent enrollment):* Trial Advocacy

*Background Check:* Students must be able to pass a rigorous background check that will grant them a security clearance to work in this office

*IMPORTANT:* Externs placed with the Shelby County DA's Office MAY NOT engage in concurrent legal employment or volunteer legal work during the field placements semester.

### **Shelby County Public Defender's Office**

The Law Office of the Shelby County Public Defender provides law students with a unique learning experience in criminal defense through a variety of externship opportunities. As one of the oldest public defender systems in the country, we take pride in our legacy of protecting the rights of those who cannot afford a lawyer.

Our internship program pairs law students with experienced attorneys to assist with all aspects of case preparation and courtroom advocacy. Law students will have the opportunity to work in various departments within our office, including criminal court, general sessions, direct representation, juvenile defense, appellate defense, capital defense and special litigation. Additionally, our office staffs several treatment courts – mental health court, drug court and veterans court. Our interns gain practical knowledge while working in a supportive environment with a true mentor system.

Applicants should possess a passion for representing those whose liberties are at risk, an impeccable work ethic, an aptitude for oral advocacy, strong research and writing skills.

If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

For more information, see <https://www.defendshelbyco.org/internship-program>.

*Preferred Course(s):* Professional Responsibility, Evidence; Criminal Procedure.

## **STATE/MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT EXTERNSHIPS**

### **Memphis City Attorney's Office (Law Division)**

The Memphis City Attorney's Office externship course will introduce students to the legal issues facing attorneys who represent the City of Memphis in civil litigation, transactional, and policy-related matters, and the role of lawyers in municipal government generally. It will also expose students to the intricacies of the City Attorney's role as counselor and advocate for Memphis, its governmental offices, and its employees. Students selected for this placement will be assigned to either the litigation unit or a transaction unit within the City Attorney's Office.

Depending on the division within the City Attorney's Office to which they are assigned, externs may be asked to prepare internal legal memoranda (for example, analyzing legal issues or policy implications for the City Attorney or client agency officials); draft motion papers; assist with discovery; review proposed rules or legislation; or review drafts of transactional agreements. Externs may also have the opportunity to attend and participate in meetings with government officials, client or witness interviews, legislative hearings, depositions, court appearances, negotiation sessions, or other events relating to their work under the supervision of a licensed attorney. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

*Anticipated Spring 2023 Placements:*

General Litigation Unit

Transactional Unit

### **Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority – Office of General Counsel**

This Externship will offer students the opportunity to earn academic credit for legal work performed under the immediate and ongoing supervision of the General Counsel to the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority. Students enrolled in this externship will be exposed to the wide variety of legal matters handled by the Airport Authority's General Counsel, examples of which include matters involving business contracting (including contract drafting, negotiation, and interpretation); administrative and regulatory law (e.g., aviation law); risk management (e.g., premises liability issues); labor and employment law (e.g., worker's compensation issues); formulation and implementation of rules and policies (e.g., adoption of a local preference rule for purchasing); and preventative/prophylactic training, advice, and counseling.

Among other assignments, it is anticipated that the extern will perform legal research; draft, review, and opine on contractual agreements; and draft memoranda, letters, and other documents. Externs will also learn through observation of and participation in day-to-day practice activities, including legal proceedings, negotiations, meetings, trainings, and counseling sessions. When possible, externs will work with client departments and departmental staff to gather information and to gain insight into and understanding of the Airport Authority's operations and structure.

### **State of Tennessee Attorney General's Office – Consumer Protection Externship**

As the State's Chief Legal Officer, the Tennessee Attorney General and Reporter represents all state executives, officials, departments, boards, agencies and commissions in matters arising from their public duties. Such representation includes participation in litigation and transactional matters, issuing formal written opinions, and giving day-to-day legal advice.

In this externship, selected students will work with and under the supervision of attorneys in the Office's Division of Consumer Protection. Among other tasks, externs can expect to:

- Work directly with consumers and businesses to informally resolve disputes;
- Assist with pre-litigation discovery as part of our Division’s investigations into alleged unfair, deceptive, or abusive practices;
- Perform legal research and draft legal memoranda;
- Attend hearings and trials as they arise;
- Assist with community education/outreach;
- Assist with preparation and editing of pleadings; and
- Write letters to consumers and businesses.

More information about the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General can be found at <https://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral.html>.

## **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT/ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY EXTERNSHIPS**

### **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission – Hearings Unit or Legal Unit**

Students in this placement will serve as externs in the Memphis Field Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Students will be assigned to either the Hearings Unit or the Legal Unit of the EEOC Office. The Hearings Unit employs four administrative judges who conduct hearings and render decisions with respect to EEO complaints that are brought by Federal workers. The role of the extern in the Hearings Unit will be similar to that of a judicial law clerk. The extern will conduct legal research on specific topics at the direction of the administrative judge, write decisions in conjunction with the administrative, and prepare for and attend hearings, settlement conferences, and other case-related events. Externs in the Legal Unit will work under the supervision of trial attorneys engaged in litigation against employers for violations of Title VII, the ADEA and the ADA. Externs will perform legal research and writing, assist in interviewing claimants or witnesses, help prepare discovery responses based on those interviews, and help prepare claimants or witnesses for deposition. In addition to the legal assignments, externs will be given the opportunity to observe different aspects of agency functions, including intake interviews, depositions, mediation sessions, administrative hearings, court hearings, and trials.

*Preferred Course(s):* Evidence, Fair Employment Practice or Federal Courts.

*Preference:* Student(s) should have a sincere interest in employment law or litigation.

### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of Counsel (APPLICATION DEADLINE - OCTOBER 7)**

In this externship, students are placed in the Office of Counsel, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District. The Memphis District employs over 500 civilian employees and has served the citizens of the Mid-South region since 1882. The District works to minimize flood risk, keeps America’s most vital inland navigation highway – the Mississippi River – open for navigation, and preserves the environment for future generations. As a member of the district’s legal team, externs will work across a wide array of practice areas including government contracts, real estate, labor relations, civilian personnel law, equal employment opportunity, government information practices, administrative law, fiscal law, ethics, environmental law, acquisition law, claims, litigation, and legal assistance.

Typical assignments for externs span all practice areas and may include work such as: research and drafting legal memoranda and other written documents; supporting in the defense of agency and GAO bid protests, contract claims and appeals; processing claims, FOIA requests, and labor-related issues; reviewing or preparing title reviews, closing packages, or other real estate documents; and, participating in federal litigation including assisting with the preparation of motions, interrogatories, briefs, Rule 4 assemblies, and litigation reports. All tasks will involve close coordination with clients, subject matter experts, paraprofessionals, and attorneys in the office.

*This position is with a civilian legal office; service in the military is not required. Students will need to undergo a background investigation and suitability determination.*

## **HEALTH PRACTICE EXTERNSHIPS**

The Health Law Externships will offer students interested in health law and in-house legal practice the opportunity to earn academic credit for legal work performed under the immediate and ongoing supervision of attorneys in the legal departments of local healthcare organizations on health-related research projects. Students enrolled in these externships will be exposed to the wide variety of legal matters handled by these offices, examples of which may include matters involving administrative and regulatory law, hospital risk management, clinical research compliance, labor and employment law; business contracting; formulation and implementation of hospital and corporate policy; healthcare legislation, policy, and reform; and preventative/prophylactic training and counseling.

Among other assignments, it is anticipated that externs will perform legal research; draft memoranda, letters, and other documents; draft and review contractual agreements; and prepare presentations to hospital personnel. Externs will also learn through observation of and participation in day-to-day practice activities, including legal proceedings, negotiations, meetings, trainings, and counseling sessions. When possible, externs will work with client departments and departmental staff to gather information and to gain insight into and understanding of clinical, business, and health care operations.

### ***Anticipated Spring 2023 Placements:***

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital\*\*\*  
Baptist Memorial Health Care  
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare  
Regional Medical Center at Memphis

***\*\*\*NOTE: STUDENTS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE EXTERNSHIP WITH ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL MUST REVIEW THE HANDOUT DESCRIPTION AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS DOCUMENT DESCRIBING THE ST. JUDE OFFICE OF LEGAL SERVICES INTERNSHIP. PLEASE CONTACT PROFESSOR SCHAFFZIN IMMEDIATELY IF YOU PLAN TO APPLY FOR PLACEMENT WITH ST. JUDE. ST. JUDE GIVES PRIORITY TO 3L STUDENTS APPLYING BUT WILL CONSIDER 2L STUDENTS.***

## **COMMUNITY LAW OFFICE EXTERNSHIPS**

### **Advocates for Immigrant Rights**

Advocates for Immigrant Rights (AIR) is a non-profit law firm focused on providing direct legal representation for immigrants. Our mission is to fight for the dignity, safety, and inclusion of immigrants in the United States, especially those most marginalized, through legal representation and advocacy. We fight for the rights of immigrants but also for the expansion of those rights to ensure that all people are equally protected by the laws of the United States. AIR seeks to create structural and systemic change by coordinating with other legal service providers and community-based organizations to complement our skills and build our mutual capacity. Our service model inherently provides for relationships that will propel our work and the work of our partners.

AIR is primarily focused on removal defense in the South, making special considerations for people who are LGBTQ or other extremely vulnerable classes, but we also support other types of immigration cases. We offer pro bono and low bono services in an effort to provide accessible legal representation to a

community that is often not well established or even authorized to work lawfully in this country. We believe in not only provided excellent legal representation, but also being intentional about our work with clients and with the greater legal community. AIR also provides support to other non-profits across the region and is a part of MEMigration, a larger coalition for non-profit immigrant-oriented organizations, as well as a smaller initiative, Welcome South, working to build a network of providers representing clients in removal proceedings across the Mid-South.

An externship with AIR will provide the student with practical experience in the immigration field and a more expansive understanding of how immigration laws function in relation to the criminal and civil jurisprudence of this country. The extern will have the opportunity to engage in research projects, assist in the preparation of asylum applications and other removal defense applications. The extern will attend immigration court with our attorneys and depending on the student's year in law school, could have the opportunity to work in Shelby County Probate Court as a student attorney to represent clients in guardianship hearings as the predicate order for certain children to be eligible for lawful permanent residency. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

### **Bass Berry Pro Bono Internship Program**

This placement will operate in conjunction with the Bass, Berry & Sims Pro Bono Internship Program. The Program's mission is to partner with law schools to help foster the next generation's commitment to pro bono.

Bass, Berry & Sims engages in pro bono work focused on three primary areas: strengthening families, empowering communities, and protecting civil rights. Memphis Law externs placed through the firm's Pro Bono Internship Program will be assigned to one or more pro bono matters, working in close collaboration with the team of firm lawyers and staff supporting each project. Through their pro bono project work, it is expected that externs will have the opportunity to enhance their legal knowledge and hone their lawyering skills, including research, analysis, persuasive writing, fact investigation, and client interviewing.

Examples of the projects on which students from other law schools have provided support through the Program include:

- Work on an asylum case that allowed the student to acquire extensive understanding of immigration law and procedure, draft motions, and research specific legal issues.
- Work on one of several Tennessee Innocence Project cases being handled by the firm, including analysis of transcripts of prior hearings, research on substantive legal issues, discussion of strategy, and drafting motions and memoranda in support of motions.
- Work to support foundational research on the policies and practices of the Tennessee Parole Board, requiring collection and assessment of data, identifying statutory bases for policies, surveying state and federal laws, and researching the rights of incarcerated individuals.
- Work on a challenge to the constitutionality of the payment of expert witness fees for postconviction petitions in capital cases, which engaged the student in research, discussions about strategy, and preparation for meetings with the Administrative Office of the Courts to address the process.

### **Community Legal Center – Immigrant Justice Program**

The Community Legal Center’s Immigrant Justice Program offers a variety of legal services to low income immigrants living within the jurisdiction of the Memphis Immigration Court (Tennessee, Arkansas, northern Mississippi, and western Kentucky). Externs placed with the IJP will assist staff attorneys on a variety of family and humanitarian-based immigration cases, including applications for adjustment of status, asylum, U nonimmigrant visas for victims of certain crimes, and Special Immigrant Juvenile status. Responsibilities will include conducting and participating in client interviews, legal research and writing, preparation of pleadings and applications for immigration relief, assistance with and attendance of hearings before the Memphis Immigration Court and interviews with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”). Externs will also have the opportunity to represent clients in guardianship proceedings before the Shelby County Probate Court, an initial step in the process of applying for Special Immigrant Juvenile status. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

### **Disability Rights Tennessee**

Disability Rights Tennessee (DRT) was founded as E.A.C.H. in 1978. Most recently the agency was known as Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee. Today, DRT is Tennessee’s Protection & Advocacy Network and has served—at no cost—more than 50,000 clients with disabilities. DRT’s mission is to protect the rights of Tennesseans with disabilities. DRT provides legal advocacy services to people with disabilities across the state with numerous issues, including employment discrimination, safety in schools, abuse and neglect, and access to community resources and services.

DRT focuses its work in the following strategic areas: Freedom from Harm, Freedom from Discrimination, and Freedom to Participate in the Community. Each strategic area promotes the values set forth in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act), which created the Protection & Advocacy System:

- Disability is a natural part of the human experience
- Disability does not diminish the right to live independently or to exert control and choice in life

DRT externs help to advance DRT’s mission in a number of ways, including legal research & help with trial preparation, legislative analysis, and meeting with DRT clients. Organization and communication skills will be key for any successful extern.

### **Legal Aid of Arkansas – West Memphis Office**

Legal Aid of Arkansas (LAA) is a public interest, not-for-profit law firm dedicated to providing equal access to justice in civil matters for low-income Arkansans through legal representation, advocacy, community partnerships, education, and outreach. Substantive practice areas include consumer law, family law, housing, public benefits, expungement, wills, and other related poverty-law issues.

Student externs placed with Legal Aid of Arkansas’s West Memphis Office will be presented with opportunities to hone legal writing and researching skills and gain first-hand experience with clients in areas such as client intake, investigation, representation, community education, and outreach. Students who have completed their 2L year (60 credits) may be able to gain in- court experience by obtaining a limited practice license under Arkansas Rule Governing Bar Admission 15 (Student Practice).

### **Memphis Area Legal Services**

The Memphis Area Legal Services Externship allows students to receive academic credit for one semester of work at Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS), a nonprofit law firm that provides free civil legal assistance to eligible elderly and low-income people in Western Tennessee. MALS helps clients who are faced with legal problems that harm their ability to have such basics as food, shelter, income, medical care, and personal safety. The externship is available to second- or third-year students. Students work under the close supervision of MALS staff attorneys to perform client interviews, undertake factual and legal research; collect and review records; develop witness testimony and evidence; draft pleadings and other written submissions; and participate in the representation of clients at hearings and other court proceedings. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

More information about MALS may be found at [www.malsi.org](http://www.malsi.org).

*Anticipated Spring 2023 MALS Placements:*

Fair Housing Center  
Family Law Unit  
Low Income Taxpayer Unit

**Mid-South Immigration Associates**

MIA is a non-profit public interest law office whose primary mission is the provision of affordable immigration services to economically disadvantaged non-citizens within the geographic jurisdiction of the Memphis Immigration Court. Within the Memphis metro region, MIA also seeks to facilitate the administration of justice and to increase public awareness on issues related to US immigration and naturalization law. In particular, MIA assists individuals to obtain immigration status based upon family relationships, domestic violence and persecution, and other non-employment based avenues available in US immigration law. MIA conducts case appeals as resources allow, but does not at this time engage in impact or class-action litigation. MIA also provides community legal rights presentations and consultations ‘clinics’ in the Memphis area. Finally, MIA engages in administrative advocacy in the Memphis area, organizing and attending meetings with USCIS, ICE, EOIR, local police, local immigrants’ rights organizations and attorney stakeholders. Currently our administrative advocacy is focused around the ‘U Visa’ issue.

Under the supervision of MIA staff attorneys, assigned externs will conduct casework in a select number of cases, of the type listed above. Externs will also assist with client intake interviews, have the opportunity to work directly with clients, assist with immigration applications and filings, and potentially represent clients at immigration court hearings. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

*Anticipated Spring 2023 Placements:*

Asylum/Deportation Defense  
Survivors’ Project (Orders of Protection, Family Law)

**West Tennessee Legal Services**

The mission of West Tennessee Legal Services (WTLS) is to provide equal access to justice in seventeen counties in West Tennessee. WTLS offers no-cost civil legal aid to West Tennesseans, focusing on issues that affect family safety, cohesiveness, and stability. The externship is available to second- or third-year students. Preference may be given to students who live in or near Jackson, Tennessee and are able to perform externship work in person.

Selected externs may have the opportunity to perform client interviews, undertake factual and legal research; collect and review records; develop witness testimony and evidence; draft pleadings and other written submissions; and participate in the representation of clients at hearings and other court proceedings. If eligible, externs may seek student practice permission pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Section 10.03 (the Tennessee Law Student Practice Rule).

More information about WTLS can be found at <https://wtls.org>.

### **The Works, Inc./Neighborhood Preservation, Inc.**

The mission of The Works Inc. is to work to rebuild, restore and renew our community's families, and the environments in which they live through housing, economic development, and social services. **The Works, Inc.'s goals include:** 1) Increasing the availability of affordable housing; 2) Delivering programs and services related to affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization; and 3) Providing the social services, advocacy, and support requisite for families' holistic, healthful, and socioeconomic success.

Now operating under the umbrella of The Works, Inc., Neighborhood Preservation, Inc. (NPI) is a nonprofit legal and community development organization that works to eliminate or mitigate all known legal and systemic impediments to the removal of such properties so that all available resources for addressing blight can then be effectively and efficiently deployed.

The Works, Inc./NPI Externship offers a formalized entry-level experience for a law student who is interested in exploring a career in housing/community development/municipal law. Among other issues, the selected extern will work closely with staff and stakeholders of The Works, Inc./NPI on matters involving landlord/tenant and eviction disputes, cases and strategies aiming to address property blight, and affordable housing development and policy.

## **IN-HOUSE COUNSEL EXTERNSHIPS**

### **Ducks Unlimited – Office of Land Protection**

Ducks Unlimited, the world's largest nonprofit, waterfowl and wetlands conservation organization, has an opportunity for placement of a legal extern in its National Headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee. DU is an accredited land trust with a portfolio of nearly 500 conservation easements and a fee-title portfolio of 23,000 acres. DU's land protection efforts conserve habitat across a diverse array of landscapes, from native prairie ecosystems in the Dakotas to bottomland hardwood forests in the Mississippi Delta to wetland systems along the coasts.

The assigned legal extern will work closely with the Director of Land Protection, whose primary responsibility is to guide, draft, and negotiate easement and fee-title transactions for the organization's nationwide land protection efforts. Specifically, the extern will assist with the following:

- Draft, review, and perform due diligence for conservation easement and fee-title transactions.
- Ensure DU's land protection efforts comply with federal and state statutes and regulations. Because most conservation easements are either fully or partially donated, it is particularly concerned with IRC § 170 and the associated regulations on Qualified Conservation Contributions, 26 CFR § 1.170A-14.
- Ensure compliance with all internal guidelines and policies, as well as the Land Trust Alliance accreditation standards.
- Interpret Conservation Easement Deed language to determine if a landowner's request to exercise a reserved right is permissible under the terms of the easement.

- Interpret Conservation Easement Deed language when potential violations arise and determine the organization's response to easement violations.
- Work with General Counsel's office to implement easement defense strategies.

The extern may also have the opportunity to work with the General Counsel's office on matters related to nonprofit fundraising, charitable regulations and governance, and trademarks.

### **FedEx Express Employment Litigation, Employment Law, and Commercial Litigation**

This placement offers law student externs the opportunity to spend a semester embedded with FedEx Express's Employment Litigation, Employment Law, and Commercial Litigation groups. The employment litigation group represents FedEx Express, FedEx Corp., and FedEx Services throughout the country when these entities are sued regarding an employment relationship. The litigation this group handles primarily involves employment discrimination and wage and hour disputes. However, the cases may involve any lawsuit involving a prospective employee, current employee, or former employee who sues FedEx. This group also responds to charges of discrimination filed with agencies, such as the EEOC and analogous state agencies. The employment law group deals with non-litigation employment matters. This group provides day-to-day advice and consultation to FedEx managers and human resources professionals in the field. The group also provides training, conducts investigations into allegations of employee misconduct, works on FedEx's employee manuals, and generally ensures that FedEx is compliant with the various jurisdictions' laws and regulations. The commercial litigation group represents FedEx in lawsuits throughout the country involving cargo claims, business torts, antitrust matters, and breach of contract claims. These lawsuits may involve disputes with FedEx vendors, customers, or other companies.

Under the supervision of a FedEx attorney, the extern will be preparing drafts of legal briefs and pleadings. In addition, the extern will conduct electronic legal research. The extern will also assist attorneys in the preparation of taking and defending depositions, court hearings, trials, and internal meetings. FedEx conducts internal and external moot courts to prepare its attorneys for appellate oral arguments and significant dispositive motion arguments. The extern would participate in these moot courts, primarily serving on a mock judicial panel. The extern would also assist FedEx attorneys with presentations that educate the respective audience on legal developments and emerging legal trends. Additionally, the extern would review and analyze legal documents and employee files.

### **FedEx Logistics, Inc. – Legal Department**

FedEx Logistics plays a key role within the FedEx portfolio. FedEx Logistics provides air and ocean freight forwarding, customs brokerage and international trade compliance, warehousing and transportation management, critical inventory logistics, and repair and return services. Serving more than 200 countries, FedEx Logistics leverages the power of the extensive international FedEx transportation network to provide customers a single source for end-to-end management of their shipments and global supply chains.

Among other assignments and opportunities, an extern may participate in Compliance and Regulatory risk assessments and audits; help negotiate sales agreements with Fortune 500 Corporations; correspond with global third party service providers; deal with various issues related to import and export controls; learn about various product lines offered by FedEx, including: customs brokerage, freight forwarding, warehouse supply chain, airfreight, ocean freight, e-commerce, surface transportation, return management, warehousing, and trade management; learn about laws and regulations of various U.S. Government agencies, including: Department of Justice, Department of Treasury, Department of Commerce, Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, Food and Drug

Administration, Department of Transportation, and Securities and Exchange Commission; and address issues directly related to FXL's workforce. An extern may also take the FedEx Hub Tour, be part of moving into FedEx Logistics' new WHQ in Downtown Memphis, and participate in other FedEx sponsored events.

### **Orion Federal Credit Union – Office of Legal Counsel and Compliance**

Founded in 1957 as Memphis Area Teachers' Credit Union, Orion Federal Credit Union has grown to become the largest credit union in Western Tennessee. Orion FCU is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned Orion offers a full spectrum of banking options ranging from savings and checking accounts to auto, mortgage and personal loans to almost everyone who lives or works in the greater Memphis area. Student externs placed with Orion FCU's Office of Legal Counsel and Compliance will support the Office's work in the area of banking law. Among other charges, the Office works to ensure compliance with all applicable banking statutes and regulations from the Federal Reserve, NCUA, HUD, and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; review of loan documents and modification for specific loan promotions; draft modification and forbearance agreements for commercial loans; file claims against estates and review other probate matters; and create procedures for state law matters related to decedents' accounts, safe deposit boxes, etc.

Beyond exposure to the Office of Legal Counsel and Compliance's banking law practice, student externs will assist in the Office's general practice, which includes contract drafting, review, and modification; review of possible EEOC-law violations; management of litigation referred to outside counsel and handling of smaller litigation matters; and provision of legal opinions on general business matters.

### **Memphis-Shelby County Schools – Office of General Counsel**

Memphis-Shelby County Schools ("MSCS") is the largest school district in the State of Tennessee and among the largest 25 public school districts in the country. MSCS serves over 100,000 students in more than 200 schools, including charter schools, and employs approximately 14,000 personnel, including over 6,000 teachers. As Tennessee's largest public school district and one of the largest employers in the Greater Memphis area, MSCS is a diverse district with a large footprint in the city, county, and state. Because of the size and bandwidth of the district, SCS handles a variety of complex legal issues, ranging from special education, labor and employment, charter schools, procurement, contracts, legislation, and policy.

Externs will be exposed to legal issues at the forefront of urban education and those facing large governmental entities. Externs will be expected to assist in such tasks as performing legal research; drafting memoranda, pleadings, and correspondence; working with attorneys and legal assistants in trial and hearing preparation; and reviewing and drafting district policies, manuals, and proposed legislation. Tasks and opportunities will be determined by the extern's interest and the needs of the office, as well as the nature of active matters.

Under the guidance of the General Counsel's office, the externs will have the opportunity to: (1) assist in developing creative and innovative strategies to resolve legal challenges facing the school district; (2) attend interoffice and intraoffice meetings within district officials to gain understanding about the operations of the public school system; (3) assist in preparing for and attending depositions, hearings, mediations, and other legal proceedings; (4) perform legal research and render opinions and answers to questions, including, but not limited to, matters pertaining to civil rights, education law, disability and special education matters, student rights, and local, state, and federal government laws, policies, and regulations; (5) assist in providing advice concerning new or revised Board policies and procedures; and (6) perform other related duties as assigned or directed.

## **University of Memphis – Office of Athletic Compliance**

The University of Memphis Athletics Compliance Office serves coaches, prospective student-athletes, current student-athletes, athletics representatives and those groups that support varsity sports and several hundred student-athletes. The Office ensures that the integrity of the University of Memphis is upheld by establishing an atmosphere of education, consistency and responsibility in adherence to the explicit guidelines set forth by the governing legislation of the NCAA and the American Athletic Conference.

Selected externs will provide support in the day-to-day operations involving NCAA Compliance at the University of Memphis by performing tasks including assistance with the completion of mandatory NCAA, American Athletic Conference (AAC) and/or University of Memphis compliance forms, maintaining student-athlete files insuring that all required NCAA and AAC documentation is up to date, and assisting with maintenance of the student-athlete database.

## **University of Memphis – Office of University Counsel**

The University Counsel Externship course will offer students interested in higher education law and inhouse legal practice the opportunity to earn academic credit for work performed under the immediate and ongoing supervision of attorneys in The University of Memphis Office of Legal Counsel. Students enrolled in this externship will be exposed to the wide variety of legal matters handled by the Office of Legal Counsel on behalf of its University client, examples of which include matters involving labor and employment disputes; academic and student issues; athletic and research compliance; business and real estate transactions; contract drafting and review; formulation and implementation of University policies; and intellectual property. Externs will actively engage in legal research and writing while learning through observation of and participation in hearings, negotiations, client meetings, and other practice events.

## **University of Tennessee Research Foundation**

The University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF), the technology transfer office for the University of Tennessee system, is seeking legal interns for Spring 2023 in its Memphis office. UTRF is looking for current law students who are interested in entrepreneurship and intellectual property, with a preference for interns having a scientific background. The Spring legal intern(s) will support UTRF in the commercialization of inventions created at the various campuses of the University of Tennessee (UT). UTHSC has an active program of basic, clinical and translational research in a wide variety of disciplines focused on the health issues that impact the local community, the state of Tennessee and the world. As the technology transfer office for UTHSC, UTRF provides an essential bridge between academia and industry to commercialize technology created by faculty researchers. UTRF's purpose is to move technologies from lab to marketplace through intellectual property development and commercial licensing.

UTRF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the commercialization of UT intellectual property, encourages an entrepreneurial culture, contributes to state and regional economic development, and promotes research and education to benefit the people of Tennessee and beyond.

UTRF offers numerous opportunities for learning and hands-on experience in the fields of intellectual property and commercial licensing. Legal interns will work directly under the supervision of UTRF's Senior Staff Attorney (James Parrett, JD/PharmD) to analyze UTHSC technologies and develop strategies for their intellectual property protection and licensing to commercial entities. Following initial orientation and training, Spring legal interns will be assigned several technologies to work on. Additional assignments may include:

- Preparing patentability and freedom-to-operate assessments on new technologies
- Developing strategies for patenting UT inventions and working with technology managers and outside counsel to manage patent applications
- Assisting in negotiating and drafting license agreements, options, term sheets, material transfer agreements, and other agreements
- Writing legal memos on current intellectual property topics or technology transfer issues.

We hope to offer our legal interns broad exposure to all areas of our work and encourage our interns to help us customize the overall internship experience to meet their interests and career goals. An ideal candidate is a detail oriented, critical thinker with excellent verbal and written communication skills. This position may be either part time or full time. Total weekly hours will depend on the number of interns hired, current office workload and intern interest. UTRF offers flexible scheduling, including potential for telecommuting and remote work. Ideally, legal interns would be available to work at least 2-3 days per week at the Memphis office.

**Job Qualifications/Requirements:** Must be a current law student with a scientific or technical background, with a minimum of a B.S. degree in life science, physical science, healthcare or engineering. Preference will be given to students with an advanced degree in a life science and prior experience with intellectual property protection and/or healthcare.

If you are looking for an exciting and unique internship opportunity combining law and science, we invite you to apply for a Spring position with UTRF.

**St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Office of Legal Services  
Law Student Externship**

**Spring 2023**

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital is a world-class research hospital treating children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases, and conducting research on those diseases. One of the world’s largest health care charities, St. Jude is the first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center devoted solely to children, and is the World Health Organization’s Global Headquarters for the surveillance of animal-to-human influenza transmission. St. Jude is the only pediatric cancer research center in the United States where families do not pay for treatment not covered by insurance. St. Jude has been recognized as the #1 pediatric cancer hospital in the country by both *U.S. News and World Report* and *Parents Magazine*; the most trusted non-profit in America by *Harris Interactive*; among the 10 best places to work in academia by *The Scientist* for several consecutive years and among the 100 best places to work (in any field) by *Fortune Magazine*, also for consecutive years. Notably, St. Jude has a strong international presence, and supports medical education, clinics, and hospital networks globally.

**St. Jude’s Strategic Plan**

With the guidance of its plan, St. Jude 2021, St. Jude will accelerate progress globally by treating more patients on St. Jude-led clinical trials, advancing care for children with blood disorders, and setting the standard for clinical care and patient/family experience. Through its culture of excellence and innovative research, St. Jude will make scientific and medical discoveries and lead the way to improve medical care globally. <https://home.stjude.org/ceo-office/Pages/strategic-plan.aspx>

**St. Jude Graduate School Opened Fall of 2017**

The St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences will train the next generations of academic researchers to work at the interface between basic and clinical research through a one-of-a-kind scientific interdisciplinary environment. St. Jude is home to more than 200 basic scientists and clinicians working across 21 academic departments, and has developed a unique graduate program for PhD in Biomedical Sciences based on hands-on laboratory research and training.

For more information, please visit [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).

**About the Internship**

Legal interns at St. Jude spend a summer immersed in a unique culture where basic, translational, and clinical research are all housed on the same campus in a robust hospital; where biochemists, computational biologists, geneticists, and statisticians routinely interact with medical and research specialists in infectious diseases, oncology, pharmacology, radiology, surgery, and hematology (including sickle cell disease). Interns will work with a number of lawyers, both in-house and (with supervision) outside counsel, on substantive projects in many aspects of the law – some of which will depend on the intern’s interests – including health law, business transactions, risk management, international law, intellectual property, commercial transactions, labor and employment, clinical trials, grants and contracts, and even shaping law and regulations at the State and Federal levels. As part of the intern experience, each intern will tour and learn about legal issues related to patient housing, clinics, Children’s GMP, and Environmental Health and Safety, and will have training in Export Control and HIPAA. Interns also have worked in depth with the Office of Technology Licensing, Managed Care, and Environmental Health and Safety. We take our mentoring obligations very seriously (and enjoy it!), so every assignment comes with

plenty of context and follow-through opportunities for the interns, and client interaction is plentiful. Moreover, interns will find themselves routinely included in meetings of all types for educational purposes. Every past intern has given our program remarkably high scores, according to their respective law schools.

### **Application Details**

Those who are in the second semester of the second year are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be fluent in English, have exceptional grades, and have taken Professional Responsibility or have passed the Multi State Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE). To prevent conflicts of interest, we do not accept students who have relatives working at St. Jude, except in extraordinary circumstances. Please send a CV and include your undergraduate, graduate (if any), and law school GPAs, and a cover letter to Professor Daniel Schaffzin, addressed to Kaleigh Clanton, for consideration. It is crucial that the cover letter address why the applicant wishes to have an internship at St. Jude, the intern's expectations, and why the intern believes he or she "belongs" here.

Kaleigh Clanton  
Associate Counsel  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
262 Danny Thomas Place, MS 280  
Memphis, TN 38105  
O: 901-595-5687  
F: 901-595-5944

Claire Watts  
Executive Assistant  
Legal Services  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
262 Danny Thomas Place, MS 280  
Memphis, TN 38105-3678  
Phone: 901-595-6451 or 595-5686  
Fax: 901-595-5944  
Email: [claire.watts@stjude.org](mailto:claire.watts@stjude.org)

Paula Malone  
Administrative Specialist  
Legal Services  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
262 Danny Thomas Place, MS 280  
Memphis, TN 38105-3678  
Phone: 901-595-6596 or 595-5686  
Fax: 901-595-5944  
Email: [paula.malone@stjude.org](mailto:paula.malone@stjude.org)