



**Legal Pro Bono Opportunity**  
**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
**Office of General Counsel**

The VA Office of General Counsel, Southeast District is excited to announce an externship or legal pro bono opportunity available for selected students for the Spring and Summer 2025 semesters.

OGC's Southeast District specializes in federal administrative law, representing the Department in employment law cases in front of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Merit System Protections Board and handles matters on a wide range of administrative law topics, including health care law, benefits and cemetery issues. Selected students will research legal issues, draft memorandums of law and pleadings, including but not limited to, motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, motions to compel, and discovery requests, and attend and assist attorneys during trials, arbitrations, mediations, depositions, and conferences with administrative law judges.

Rising 3Ls are preferred, but all will be considered.

Placement is in the Office of General Counsel's Core Office in St. Petersburg, FL or Core Office in Tampa, FL, depending on availability and the preferences of selectees. Students will have the opportunity to work in person with attorneys stationed in the Core Offices as well as virtually with attorneys stationed throughout the Southeast District (Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama).

Students should plan to work at least one or two days per week in the office (Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday preferred, but flexible). Due to the time and expense to the VA in onboarding students, please apply only if you are able to dedicate a minimum of eight (8) weeks. For externship applicants, time requirements will be based on the Stetson externship program requirements.

Students must agree to a criminal background investigation and be fingerprinted at the C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center (Bay Pines) or James A. Haley VA Medical Center (Tampa).

Please email your resume, current unofficial transcript, writing sample, and a cover letter to Attorney Heather Blackmon (Stetson Law class of 2015) at [Heather.Blackmon@va.gov](mailto:Heather.Blackmon@va.gov) and Attorney Caroline Johnson at [Caroline.Johnson5@va.gov](mailto:Caroline.Johnson5@va.gov) for consideration.

The application deadline for Spring 2025 is November 18, 2024. The application deadline for Summer 2025 is March 31, 2025.

Please contact us with any questions.