



Jon Tunheim

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Mission Statement

The Prosecuting Attorney's Office will perform its constitutional and statutory duties by serving as a highly skilled and innovative legal team advocating for public safety, seeking justice in criminal cases for victims and those accused, representing the interests of children, and providing effective legal services to Thurston County government.

Thurston County PAO Law Clerk Intern/Extern Program

The Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (Olympia, WA) is seeking applicants for extern, Rule 9 intern, and volunteer intern opportunities. Paid Rule 9 positions are full time during the summer and part time during the school year. Extern (school credit) and volunteer intern positions for 1L, 2L, or 3L students can be either part-time or full time. Our office offers opportunities in the Criminal Division (Misdemeanor Trial Team, Domestic Violence Trial Team, Special Victims Trial Team, Juvenile Trial Team, Appellate Team, and Civil Division).

1L interns are given legal research and writing assignments for appellate cases as well as pending criminal cases. Rule 9 qualified interns/externs are assigned to arraignment dockets, motion calendars, and District Court jury trials in addition to assisting DPAs on felony criminal cases. Each summer, interns are offered training by PAO Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys and Judges in the PAO summer intern workshops providing opportunities to learn about many aspects of the criminal justice and court system. Topics range from trial strategies and approaches in court to the impact of mental health on the criminal justice system and innovative justice programs.

In 2017 the Thurston County PAO in collaboration with WAPA (WA Assoc. of Prosecuting Attorneys) began offering law students training and experience in policy analysis and legislative advocacy. This internship option is available for summer as well as spring and fall semesters/quarters.

The Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has had a successful law clerk internship program for over 25 years. The PAO has worked with law students from many schools including: University of Washington, Gonzaga University, Willamette University, Seattle University, Columbia Law School, NYU, University of Montana, University of Virginia, University of Oregon, University of Idaho, University of San Diego, University of Richmond, and Washington University.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, reference, and writing sample to: Christen Peters, Chief of Staff, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, petersc@co.thurston.wa.us (360) 786-5540.

Interviews for 2020 Summer Rule 9 Intern/Extern positions are held in August-September 2019. Summer 2020 1L interviews are held in January-February of 2020. Fall, Winter, and Spring intern interviews are scheduled approximately 2-3 months prior to the quarter or semester.

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