



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement Number: **26-01**

Opening Date: **January 15, 2026**

Closing Date: **Open until filled**

Priority will be given to applications received by February 6, 2026.

CAREER LAW CLERK to
HONORABLE DAVID A. BRAGDON
DUTY STATION: WINSTON-SALEM, NC

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The full-time Career Law Clerk works with Judge David A. Bragdon, two term law clerks, the court's case manager, and any judicial interns to help Judge Bragdon decide and manage his civil and criminal docket. Federal district court covers a wide variety of issues, and the team works together to serve the public through timely and thoughtful resolution of cases. While the work is serious, the team has fun, encouraging one another and handling challenges with cheer. As the right hand of the judge, the Career Law Clerk will review cases, draft opinions, oversee term clerks and interns, and handle administrative matters. The Career Law Clerk must have writing skills, research skills, people skills, and a willingness to do anything needed.

The position is expected to begin in March or April 2026. Judge Bragdon is open to hybrid work but prefers candidates who are willing to work in person most days. The Career Law Clerk is expected to serve at least a four-year term.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required:

- Juris Doctorate degree from an ABA accredited law school.

Preferred:

- Top 25% of graduating class.
- Prior legal work and/or clerkship experience.
- Analytical and writing skills demonstrated by Moot Court, law journal, or other serious writing activity.

BENEFITS

Federal benefits include eleven paid holidays, paid vacation and sick leave, participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System and matching and tax-deferred Thrift Savings Plan. Optional participation in Federal Health Insurance, Supplemental Dental/Vision Insurance, Federal Group Life Insurance Program, and Flexible Benefits Program. A comprehensive summary of benefit information is available for review via [Benefits | United States Courts \(uscourts.gov\)](https://uscourts.gov/benefits).

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The United States District Court requires employees to adhere to a code of conduct which is available on the judiciary's web site at <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/judiciary-policies/code-conduct>. This position is subject to mandatory electronic funds transfer (direct deposit) of federal wages for court employees.

The selectee for this position is subject to a criminal record check and satisfactory adjudication by the employing office to be eligible for employment. Due to the sensitivity level of this position, candidates may be asked about their criminal history prior to receiving a tentative offer of employment. Candidates completing the AO-78 must complete questions 18-20 regarding their criminal history. Criminal history is not in itself disqualifying. All available information, past and present, favorable, and unfavorable, about the reliability and trustworthiness of an individual will be considered when making an employment suitability determination. Providing false and/or misleading information may be grounds for removal from the application and selection process, as well as disciplinary action if discovered after an individual's date of hire.

Due to the volume of applications received, only the best qualified applicants will be invited for personal interviews. The United States District Court is a smoke-free environment. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible to work in the United States.

TO APPLY:

To apply for this position, qualified applicants should submit: 1) a cover letter addressing qualifications and relevant experience, 2) a chronological résumé, 3) one or two writing samples (demonstrating substantive legal analysis), 4) two personal references; and 5) copy of law school transcript. The completed package should be submitted as a single pdf application package to Judge_Bragdon_Clerkships@ncmd.uscourts.gov with the subject heading: Career Clerkship.

*Travel and relocation expenses will not be reimbursed.

The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.