

# Career Development Newsletter

## October/November Events Schedule

**Thursday October 18, Bankruptcy Court for the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, Judge Dow** will hold court in our Courtroom all day Thursday, October 18. Court will be in session from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Monday October 29, Diversity and Dialog,** To be held from 1 to 1:50 p.m. in the Courtroom.

**Thursday October 25, Know Your Rights,** PILA hosts Steve Kuntz from Mid-Missouri Legal Services speaking about Landlord/Tenant issues. This program qualifies for a general professional perspectives credit, and will be held from 1-1:50 p.m. in Room 7.

## Career Crisis?

Monday October 22, the Office of Career and Professional Development will host: "Career Crisis?" **This program is for any 3L who is unsure about what steps to take to plan and develop his/her career.** Attendance satisfies a Career Component credit. This program will be held from 1-1:50 p.m. in the Courtroom.

## Don't forget MBLE fingerprinting

Those planning to take the Missouri Bar must submit their fingerprints to the Board of Law Examiners. Wednesday October 31, fingerprints will be made in Hulston Hall from 1-4:30 p.m. in the Student Lounge area. **You must register for fingerprinting by October 29.**

## 3L Newsletter:

**H**ello 3Ls! We hope you are enjoying your final year in school! As it begins to get busier, please remember to attend the required Professional Perspectives and Career Development programs by the end of the fall semester. Several options are listed in this newsletter, but others are publicized around the law school and via e-mail. As always, let us know if you have any questions.

## Looking for opportunities with businesses and corporations?

If so, stop by the Career Services Library and check out *The Directory of Business Information Resources*. This reference book may serve as a springboard for your job search and provide you with some contact information if you wish to submit your resume. As with any document in the Career Services Library, students can keep this book for two business days (the check-out log is on Lesley Nilges' desk in a red binder).

## Missouri Eastern District Judge speaks about his life as an 'out' gay judge

**By John Griesedieck**

*Note: All law student organizations are welcome to submit summaries of their guest speakers' presentations to the Career and Professional Development Newsletter. The following is from the Lambda Legal Society:*

Judge Lawrence Mooney of the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, visited the University of Missouri-Columbia to discuss his experiences as an "out" gay judge and to share his perceptions of how the law continues to hurt

the rest were law faculty and staff and people from outside the Law School. His appearance was sponsored by the Lambda Legal Society, formerly the Alliance for Tolerance & Diversity.

Judge Mooney was born and raised in St. Louis. He attended St. Louis University High School, and then attended St. Louis University for college and law school. After graduating from law school, he briefly worked in private practice before he became a prosecutor in the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office. A few years later he left the Prosecutor's Office for private practice, but returned to the Prosecutor's Office when his former colleague and coworker, George "Buzz" Westfall, was elected County Prosecutor, and Westfall offered Judge Mooney the position of First Assistant Prosecutor. Judge Mooney accepted the position and stayed in the Prosecutor's Office until Westfall was elected County Executive. Then, Judge Mooney became

gay males and lesbians. About sixty-five people came to Judge Mooney's speech. Most of the audience was made of law students;



Westfall's Executive Assistant, in charge of the county's many departments and nearly four thousand employees.

Judge Mooney's speech recounted his youth in a large Irish-Catholic family in St. Louis and described the difficulty that he had as a young professional struggling to accept his sexuality in a society that still largely disapproved of homosexuality. He found his own strength in the Stonewall Riots in New York City and the gay rights movement that blossomed from them. He talked about how he found support from unexpected places, such as in the Prosecutor's Office. There, Westfall promised Judge Mooney that he would never be fired because of his sexual orientation in Westfall's office.

Students and faculty also had the opportunity to ask questions about current topics facing the LGBT community, such as adoption and gay marriage. Judge Mooney distinguished civil marriage from religious marriage, and stressed that he believed in legalizing gay civil marriages, which are recognized by the state. He also said that policies like "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" perpetuate discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Judge Mooney pointed out that, as an openly gay judge, the way that others perceive homosexuals has changed. By being up front and honest with himself and with others, he believes that slowly he has been able to help change the way that other judges and other attorneys think of homosexuals.

## Looking for a job doing public interest work?

We have a number of books in the Career Services Library that will give you some ideas about careers in the following agencies/fields of interest:

- Federal Legal Agencies
- Legal Services
- Women's Rights
- Human Rights
- Environmental Law

If you are looking for permanent employment, be sure to check out our copy of *Serving the Public: A Job Search Guide*, produced by Harvard Law School. All of these materials may be checked out for two business days. Please stop by the Career and Professional Development Office for more details.

# — Jobs, Jobs, Jobs! —

## In Columbia:

### ***Van Matre, Harrison, Volkert, and Hollis***

The Columbia firm Van Matre, Harrison, Volkert, and Hollis is looking for a 2L or 3L to work during the academic year as a research law clerk. The firm would like the student to start as soon as possible. The selected student will work between 10-15 hours/week; the firm allows flexibility in scheduling those hours.

Interested students should submit cover letter, resume, and transcript to:  
Matthew S. Volkert  
Van Matre, Harrison, Volkert, and Hollis, P.C.

1103 East Broadway, Suite 101  
Columbia, MO 65201

For more information about the firm, visit [www.vanmatre.com](http://www.vanmatre.com), or call (573)-874-7777.

### ***Missouri Coalition Against***

### ***Domestic and Sexual Violence***

The Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) is seeking a Legal Intern for a part-time, winter/spring 2008 semester internship. MCADSV, which has been working to end domestic and sexual violence since 1980, has an eleven-member staff and a growing membership of more than 100 domestic and sexual violence programs.

Primary responsibilities for the Legal Intern position include providing assistance with the researching and drafting of memoranda regarding legal issues raised by MCADSV members, affiliated organizations, and the general public; providing assistance with the researching and writing of MCADSV publications, including court advocacy resource materials; and providing support on public policy matters. MCADSV

seeks a highly organized law school student.

The position requires strong research, writing, and oral communication skills. Proficiency in LEXIS/Westlaw research and Microsoft Word is preferred. Most of the intern's work must be performed in Jefferson City at the MCADSV office.

The Legal Intern will be paid \$9.00 per hour for 10-15 hours per week for one semester, with a starting date around January of 2008.

Send cover letter and resume by mail or fax to:

Cheryl Rafert, Legal Advocacy Specialist  
217 Oscar Drive, Suite A  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
Fax number is (573) 636-3728.

Deadline is October 19, 2007.  
Contact Cheryl Rafert at (573) 634-4161 with any questions.

**Out-of-State:**

***Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals  
(Chicago)***

The United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit is now accepting applications for the position of staff law clerk for a two-year term starting in August 2008. Staff law clerks work in a highly collegial environment with recent law school graduates and lawyers coming from the nation's top law schools, as well as with more experienced supervisory attorneys.

Staff law clerks learn a wide variety of substantive and practical lawyering and writing skills through discussions with the judges and other staff law clerks. Staff law clerkships combine the intellectual rigor of a chambers clerkship with the benefits of working closely with all the judges of the Seventh Circuit, one of the most highly respected appeals courts in the country, on all phases of appellate litigation.

Like traditional chambers clerks, the staff law clerks at the Seventh Circuit perform legal research, prepare bench memoranda and draft merits opinions on a broad spectrum of federal cases subject to oral argument at the Court. In addition to receiving the type of work typical of chambers clerkships, staff clerks work with all the judges of the entire Court rather than a single judge. They also assist the judges in resolving substantive motions that address complex questions of civil procedure or seek preliminary or emergency relief.

Finally, staff law clerks assist three-judge panels in weekly deliberative conferences on cases not subject to oral argument. Applicants must have excellent academic credentials and possess superior analytical, research, and writing skills. Law review or moot court experience is preferred.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript,

two unedited legal writing samples (any length), and two letters of recommendation. Please address cover letters to:

Michael Fridkin, Senior Staff Attorney,  
219 S. Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604.

*The Office of Career and Professional Development can assist you with your letters and choice of writing sample.*

***Southern Poverty Center***

The Southern Poverty Law Center offers a two-year fellowship to recent law school graduates who possess excellent research and writing skills, a strong academic background, and a demonstrated commitment to public interest law. Law fellows perform legal research and writing and actively participate in all other aspects of the litigation process. Law fellows also contribute to non-litigation aspects of the legal department's work, including policy research, public education, and other advocacy.

Fellowship positions usually begin in September, although starting dates are flexible. Salary and benefits are excellent.

To apply for the 2008-2010 fellowship, please submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, legal writing sample, and the names and telephone numbers of three references by **November 9, 2007**. Please include email address in application.

Telephone interviews will be conducted in November; in-person interviews will be conducted in December. An offer will be extended in January 2008. Due to the high volume of applications received, the legal department is unable to respond to inquiries by telephone.

Please direct all application materials to:

Human Resources  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
400 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104-2087  
E-mail, [humanresources@splcncenter.org](mailto:humanresources@splcncenter.org).

ter.org.

***Alaska Court System: First Judicial  
District (Alaska)***

The Alaska Court System, First Judicial District, is accepting applications for five Law Clerk I positions in three superior court locations. Two positions are available in Ketchikan; two are in Juneau, and one is in Sitka. All positions are in scenic southeast Alaska.

Each law clerk works primarily for one superior court judge and, on occasion, does work for other superior or district court judges. The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction with original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. In addition, the superior court serves as an appellate court for appeals from the district court and administrative agencies. The superior court has exclusive power to hear all domestic relations matters and cases involving children.

A law clerk's duties will vary depending on the judge involved, but the duties generally include legal research; preparation of memoranda on a variety of issues in criminal, civil, and administrative law; assisting the judge in civil and criminal trials; acting as a special master in certain cases (domestic violence and divorce/dissolution, primarily); and a variety of other assignments.

The judges rely on their clerks heavily and tend to give them a great deal of responsibility. Positions will come available around August 2008. Law clerks are normally appointed for a one-year term. Upon appointment, all new employees are required to sign an Oath of Office and provide proof of citizenship or employment authorization. Salary: \$3158/month.

Visit the Career  
Development Web site at:  
[www.law.missouri.edu/jd/  
careers](http://www.law.missouri.edu/jd/careers).

(Ketchikan and Juneau); \$3269/month (Sitka). Travel and moving expenses may be partially reimbursed under appropriate circumstances.

To apply, please send cover letter (including clerkship location preference), resume, transcript, writing sample of 5 to 10 pages, and 2 letters of recommendation to:

First Judicial District  
Attention: Neil Nesheim, Area  
Court Administrator  
P.O. Box 114100  
Juneau, AK 99811.

The deadline for applications is **November 1, 2007**.

### ***Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals (Georgia)***

The United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit is accepting applications for Staff Attorney positions to begin in November and December 2007 and throughout 2008 (February, March, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December).. These are two-year appointments in the Atlanta, Georgia office.

The Staff Attorneys' Office is a central legal staff, serving the Court at large rather than individual judges. The principal task of the office is to assist in the disposition of appeals through the preparation of legal memoranda. Types of cases the office presently handles include (1) direct criminal appeals involving sentencing guidelines and guilt/innocence issues, (2) social security and black lung appeals, (3) all pro se appeals, including collateral attacks on criminal convictions by state and federal prisoners, and civil rights suits under 42 U.S.C.1983, (4) employment discrimination cases, and (5) immigration cases.

There are also three specialized units within the office.

- The Jurisdiction Unit assists the Court in the initial review of all appeals filed for the purpose of determining appellate jurisdiction.

- The Issue Tracking Unit serves to track and catalog relevant legal issues.

- The Motions Unit processes certain substantive motions, including those for in forma pauperis status, certificates of appealability for 28 U.S.C. 2254 and 2255 appeals, transcripts at government expense, and motions to appoint, withdraw, and/or substitute counsel.

Staff attorneys work in a highly collegial environment with other recent law school graduates and lawyers coming from judicial clerkships or private practice, as well as with more experienced supervisory staff attorneys and senior management.

Employment with the office offers a generous benefits package, civil and criminal law experience at the federal court level, and an environment providing significant responsibility and challenge. Starting salary is \$54,438. Applicants must possess a Juris Doctorate from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and have excellent academic credentials. They must also have superior analytical, research, and writing skills and be proficient in computer-assisted research and WordPerfect. Good communication and interpersonal skills are essential.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible to work in the United States; selected candidates will be subject to a background check as a condition of employment.

Send a resume (including law school class rank and/or percentile if available), cover letter, official law school transcript, self-edited writing sample, and a list of at least three professional references to:  
Sara Gilibert, Manager for Recruiting, Training, and Professional Development

Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals  
Staff Attorneys' Office  
56 Forsyth Street, NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2289.

### ***Scudder Law Firm (Nebraska)***

Scudder Law Firm seeks to hire associate attorney candidates. Applicants must have "excellent academic credentials," superior writing and interpersonal skills, an interest in sophisticated business transactions, and a desire to live in Lincoln, Nebraska.

When adjusted for cost-of-living differences, attorney compensation is competitive with major cities. Beginning in 2008, the first-year attorney salary is \$100,000.

The firm describes itself as having small-firm collegiality, client contact, and law practice opportunity in a city that is safe, clean, and friendly, and features excellent schools and manageable traffic. The firm brings large-firm experience to client projects at Midwestern billing rates, operating in a low-overhead environment that returns to the attorneys as much as 80 percent of collected revenue, while maintaining a debt-free balance sheet and a fiscally stable business structure.

The firm seeks to continue the tradition of hiring attorneys with superior academic backgrounds and wishes to schedule telephone interviews with associate candidates. The firm's size and client intimacy do not lend themselves to planned associate turnover.

If interested, please submit a cover letter, resume, transcript, and writing sample to [hhornung@scudderlaw.com](mailto:hhornung@scudderlaw.com). Applicants should also include a brief summary of their interest in Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information about the firm, please visit [www.scudderlaw.com](http://www.scudderlaw.com).

*For more job listings,  
check out the Career  
Development Web site at  
[www.law.missouri.edu/jd/  
careers](http://www.law.missouri.edu/jd/careers).*