Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy

Purpose of the Agency/Organization:
The London office is part of a statewide agency that provides legal services to indigent clients accused of committing a crime. The office covers a five county area and last year represented approximately 5600 clients.

Job Title:
Summer intern.

Expectations/Responsibilities of the Position:
Each summer the job and its duties have varied. The needs of the agency coupled with the skills and learning goals of each intern set the agenda. At a minimum, each intern will work directly with attorneys, investigators, mitigation specialists, and clients to fulfill the mission of providing effective legal representation.

Qualifications:
No special qualifications are required. Both law students and undergraduates are welcome. An interest in a legal career is helpful but not required. Computer skills are very helpful.

Working Conditions:
The average workday is begins at 8:30. Often, court including jury trials and research needs will extend the day into the evenings. Dress varies from casual to court attire. Working space is available as is access to Departmental resources including a motion bank, research engines and training materials. Transportation is helpful but not required. Living arrangements are made through the Shepherd’s program.

On Site Supervisor and Contact Information:
Roger Gibbs, Eastern Regional Manager
Department of Public Advocacy
911 North Main Street
London, Kentucky 40741
1-800-467-8508 or 606-330-2050
Fax 606-330-2074
roger.gibbs@ky.gov

Deaidra Douglas, Directing Attorney
Department of Public Advocacy
911 North Main Street
London, Kentucky 40741
1-800-467-8508 or 606-330-2050
Fax 606-330-2074
deaidra.douglas@ky.gov

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**Supervisor Plan:**

Each intern is assigned specific cases for the summer. These vary from drug cases to homicides. Often the immediate supervisor is the staff attorney or investigator assigned to the particular case. Casework can include jury trial preparation, assisting attorneys at the actual trial, drafting motions, preparing evidence exhibits, case investigations, witness and client interviews and research.

**Preparation:**

Students may want to review the Department’s web site for background information. All students will be asked to sign both a confidentiality agreement and a volunteer agreement.

**Additional Comments:**

In past years, our interns have helped free an innocent man from death row, helped secure retrials in several homicide cases, assisted with case investigations in places where GPS locators have had difficulty working, prepared motions now in use by the entire department, and discovered for themselves the real value of being an attorney standing up for an accused citizen. We look forward to those interns that want a real life, hands on experience in a rural setting that truly needs their skills. Our past interns have set the bar high, but we look forward to all that want to raise it even higher.