

Contract Attorneys for New View Project

The Court Improvement Program of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia will begin the New View Project, adapted from Georgia's Cold Case Project, in early 2013. Attorneys with demonstrated dedication to child abuse and neglect and/or juvenile cases are encouraged to apply to be contract reviewers, or "viewers," to look anew at case files, conduct interviews, research, and interact with multidisciplinary treatment teams to make recommendations for helping children in out-of-home care reach permanency. (For more information on the Georgia Cold Case Project, visit http://w2.georgiacourts.org/cj4c/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=73&Itemid=67).

Number of Openings: up to 6 attorneys

Type: This is a part-time, contract position with variable hours, dependent upon cases reviewed. Travel will be required.

Screening Type: Application, résumé, background check, interview

Payment Details: One-year, part-time contract position with variable hours at the rate of \$80 per hour. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

Duties and Responsibilities

Viewers will be under the supervision of the Director of the Division of Children's Services and report to the Court Improvement Program. This legal fellowship will participate in a research project titled the "New View Project" aimed at moving children from long-term, out-of-home care to permanency. This fellowship will have primary responsibility for reviewing children's case files (as identified by the Project), interviewing stakeholders, and recommending solutions to expedite permanency. After receiving training/orientation, viewers will perform research, writing, data entry, and collaboration as necessary for the project's success. Travel around the state will be required.

Minimum Training and Experience

- Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university
- Successful completion of a law degree from a nationally accredited law school
- Admission to and good standing with the West Virginia State Bar
- Excellent legal research, writing, and communication skills
- Computer skills using Microsoft Office Suite
- Demonstrated commitment of legal skills to the child protection field and/or juvenile justice field, including working knowledge of the system(s) and experience with treatment and permanency planning
- Basic knowledge of research and statistics
- Creative problem solving skills and persistence in the face of challenges

Application Process

Applicant will complete the Court's general employment application (available at <http://www.courtswv.gov/jobs.html>), submit a résumé, consent to a criminal background check and verification of educational experience, and provide at least two references. Preferably, one reference should provide evidence of the applicant's ability to conduct research and/or write papers.

Please send cover letter, employment application, and résumé to

Nikki Tennis
Director, Division of Children's Services
Supreme Court of Appeals Administrative Office
Building 1, Room E-100
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0832.

The deadline for receiving applications is January 7, 2013.

The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia is an Equal Opportunity Employer.