



United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

CAREER STAFF ATTORNEY

Cincinnati, OH Full-Time
\$102,547 to \$122,880*

About the Court

The Sixth Circuit offers a positive culture with a team of dedicated professionals.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit hears appeals from the courts located within the circuit and decisions of federal administrative agencies.

Headquartered in the historic Potter Stewart Courthouse in Cincinnati, the Sixth Circuit serves Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee.

About Cincinnati

The Cincinnati region is booming! Located on the banks of the Ohio River, we have old city charm with a contemporary vibe. We enjoy a diverse and energetic population who are transforming the area into **one of the top places to live in the country.**

Explore our remarkable city at cincinnati.chamber.com and check out our awards at cincyusa.com.

About the Job

The Office of the Staff Attorneys is soliciting applications from experienced, public-minded attorneys with interest in serving the judiciary as a member of the Sixth Circuit's central legal staff.

The Office of the Staff Attorneys

The office comprises 26 attorneys and seven administrative support personnel. Staff attorneys have a wide variety of backgrounds; they have come to the office directly upon graduation from law school, from judicial clerkships, from other public sector employment, and from private practice. The office prides itself on being a collegial and collaborative workplace.

The Work

The office functions as the court's central legal staff, serving the court at large rather than individual judges. The office's mission is to assist the court in the disposition of appeals that are not orally argued, as well as substantive motions in both argued and non-argued cases.

Staff attorneys review case records and filings, conduct extensive legal research and analysis, and prepare case-specific legal memoranda and proposed orders. They handle appeals involving a wide range of subject matter areas, including civil rights, employment discrimination, federal criminal law and sentencing, habeas corpus, and immigration. A significant portion of the office's caseload consists of motions and appeals brought by pro se litigants, many of them prisoners.

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Required: Successful applicants must have:

- a Juris Doctor degree from an accredited law school;
- at least three years of post-J.D. legal experience;
- superior analytical, research, and writing skills;
- demonstrated ability to manage a significant workload under strict time constraints;
- the ability to accept and learn from constructive feedback; and
- a commitment to public service.

Preferred: Strong preference is given to applicants who:

- excelled academically during law school;
- have at least five years of post-J.D. legal experience;
- have worked for the federal judiciary as a law clerk, staff attorney, or counsel to the clerk; and/or
- have significant experience with immigration law or other relevant areas of federal law.

COMPETITIVE TOTAL REWARDS

ENJOY WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Compensation: Starting salary of \$102,547 to \$122,880 (CL 29) commensurate with qualifications

Benefits: Employer subsidized health and life insurance plans. Dental and vision insurance plans. Flexible spending accounts for health care, dependent care, and commuter expenses. Eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and mass transit subsidies. On-site fitness center. Federal retirement entails a pension plan (FERS-FRAE) and employer-matching Thrift Savings Plan (similar to a 401K). Retirees may carry insurance plans into retirement while paying the same premiums as employees. Visit www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits to learn more about the Judiciary's competitive benefits.

Work/Life: Annual time off - 13 vacation days, 13 sick leave days, and 11 paid holidays. Vacation days increase to 20 days after three years and to 26 days after fifteen years. Opportunities for flexible work hours, a twice-weekly telework option (after three months with the court), and alternative work schedules are available under current office policies.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit applications via OSCAR by visiting <https://oscar.uscourts.gov> Application packages must include the following: (1) cover letter, (2) resume, (3) a self-edited writing sample, (4) law school transcript, and (5) two letters of recommendation.

This posting will close on OSCAR on **March 27, 2026**. Initial interviews will be conducted on a virtual platform.

The court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, to withdraw the announcement, or to fill the position sooner than the closing date; any of these actions may occur without prior notice.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Positions with the U.S. Courts are at-will, excepted service appointments and may be terminated with or without cause by the Court. Successful applicants will be subject to a background check and fingerprinting and are provisionally hired pending results of the investigation.

Employees are required to adhere to the [Judicial Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees](#).

Electronic Fund Transfer for payroll direct deposit is required.

For citizenship requirements and additional information about careers in the Judiciary, visit www.uscourts.gov/careers.