



# United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

## TERM STAFF ATTORNEY

Cincinnati, OH Full-Time

\$70,535 - \$90,587\*

### About the Court

The Sixth Circuit offers a forward-thinking 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 [cincinnatihamber.com](http://cincinnatihamber.com) and check out our awards at [cincyusa.com](http://cincyusa.com).

### About the Position

The Office of the Staff Attorneys is soliciting applications from practicing attorneys, law clerks, and third-year law students. Up to three successful candidates will be appointed to two-year Term Staff Attorney positions, beginning in Summer 2024. Contingent upon performance and budget availability, these positions are renewable for a second two-year term. In addition, the office has hired a significant number of term staff attorneys as career staff attorneys.

### The Office of the Staff Attorneys

The office includes the Senior Staff Attorney, a Chief Deputy Staff Attorney, three supervisory staff attorneys, 18 staff attorneys (most of whom are career attorneys), a senior motions attorney, three motions attorneys, an administrative manager, and eight administrative staff. Staff attorneys have a wide variety of backgrounds; they come from clerkships, from other public sector employment, from private practice, and directly upon graduation from law school. 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 principal mission is to assist the court in the disposition of motions and appeals that are not orally argued. 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, immigration, and social security. A significant portion of the office's caseload consists of motions and appeals brought by pro se litigants, many of them prisoners.

### Mentoring and Professional Development

New staff attorneys work collaboratively with experienced supervisory attorneys and are mentored by a career staff attorney. Term attorneys initially work on cases that are hand-selected by their supervisors. As they gain experience, term attorneys enjoy significant autonomy in managing their workloads within monthly production cycles. During their two-year term, new staff attorneys can expect to significantly improve their analytical and writing skills, develop insight into the judiciary, and better understand effective advocacy.

Term staff attorneys have gone on to become career staff attorneys or to work in the public sector as judicial law clerks, prosecutors, public defenders, and counsel for state and federal agencies. Others pursue private sector careers with law firms, nonprofits, and corporations. Some have entered academia.

## POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

**Required:** A Juris Doctor degree from an ABA-accredited law school. 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 criticism; and a commitment to public service.

**Preferred:** Related experience with the federal or state judiciary as a law clerk, staff attorney, or counsel to the clerk; participated in law review, moot court, or a similar academic experience; and/or excelled academically during law school. Other private and public sector legal experience is also highly valued.

## COMPETITIVE TOTAL REWARDS

## ENJOY WORK/LIFE BALANCE

**Compensation\*:** \$70,535 - \$90,587\* (CL 27 and 28)

\*Salary commensurate with qualifications.

**Benefits:** Employer subsidized health and life insurance plans. Dental, vision, flexible spending accounts for healthcare, dependent care, and commuter expenses. Eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and mass transit subsidies. On-site fitness center. To learn more about the Judiciary's competitive benefits, visit [www.uscourts.gov/careers/benefits](http://www.uscourts.gov/careers/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. Hybrid telework schedule may be available.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please submit applications via OSCAR by visiting [www.oscar.uscourts.gov](http://www.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) three letters of recommendation.

This posting will close on OSCAR on March 8, 2024. Review of applications will begin on February 5, 2024. Interviews may be conducted on a virtual platform.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The selected candidate is provisionally hired pending results of background check and fingerprinting. Employees are required to adhere to the *Judicial Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees*.

For citizenship requirements, visit [www.uscourts.gov/careers](http://www.uscourts.gov/careers). Electronic Fund Transfer for payroll direct deposit is required. Positions with the U.S. Courts are at-will, excepted service appointments, and may be terminated with or without cause by the Court.

The Court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this announcement, or to withdraw the announcement for any reason without notice.