

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (formerly known as Clark County Legal Services)

Overview & Description of Field Work

This semester-long externship will place a student at LACSN. The externship will provide the student with exposure to a wide range of legal issues and the opportunity to conduct legal research and draft memoranda, pleadings and a variety of other legal documents; interview clients and assist in preparing their cases for hearing or trial; and assist attorneys in classes, clinics and court proceedings as approved by the Externship Director and Field Supervisor.

LACSN will specifically devote the externship experience to one substantive area of law. LACSN divides their work into “projects.” The **Consumer Rights Project** primarily assists persons with consumer related matters including unfair debt collection, scams involving purchases of used cars, foreclosures and deceptive trade practices. The **Domestic Violence Project** represents victims of domestic violence by helping them obtain protective orders against their abuser, divorce and custody orders as well as assists immigrant victims of domestic violence and other crimes under the Violence against Women Act. The **Children’s Attorneys Project** represents children who are in the foster care system due to abuse and/or neglect as well as represents children with special education needs. As an extern, the student will assist in interviews of clients and assist the attorneys in drafting pleadings for court and assist the lawyer, under the parameters of this program, with hearings. The extern would accompany the lawyer to all interviews and hearings with the client. The extern will attend all “case reviews” for the “project” they are assigned to in which clients are evaluated for services and case strategy is discussed. The externs will present any client intake they have handled. The “**Ask a Lawyer**” program is part-time every Thursday from 2-5 p.m. Preference for students who have taught Family Law, Paternity/Custody, or Guardianship Community Service classes; taken Family Law courses or who have some family law experience. This placement is geared primarily towards part-time students who are able to spend a day or afternoon each week. Other full-time students may participate in the program as part of their placement. See Professor Geer for more information.

Students are eligible for certification under the Nevada Supreme Court Rule 49.5 governing student practice.