

Application Deadlines and Orientation Schedules

Paralegal, Graduate & Undergraduate Studies

Applications for Spring 2012 must be received by December 31, 2011
Intern Orientation will be held on January 19 and 20, 2012

Law Studies

Applications for Spring 2012 must be received by December 29, 2011
Intern Orientation will be held on January 5, 2012

Placement opportunities, eligibility and application process can be obtained at our new website www.jud.ct.gov/intern

NEWSLETTER STAFF

External Affairs

Editors:
Rhonda Stearley-Hebert
Alison Zawadski

Graphic Design and
Publication Development:
Alison Zawadski

Information Technology
Printer: Commission on
Official Legal Publications

VOLUNTEER/INTERN PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Questions and Comments: (860) 282-6581

Robyn N. Oliver, Program Manager
Robyn.Oliver@jud.ct.gov

Juana Brown, Coordinator
Middlesex, New London, and Windham Counties

Rosanne Purtill, Coordinator
Hartford and Tolland Counties

The Connecticut Judicial Branch
Volunteer/Intern Program
99 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT 06108



Volunteer/Intern Program Approaches its 40th Year

JUDICIAL COLUMN

Connecticut Judicial Branch Volunteer and Intern Program • Issue 11 • Summer 2011

Program A Valuable Asset To The Branch

By Robyn Oliver
Program Manager

The Judicial Branch Volunteer/Intern Program has been in operation for more than 40 years. In that time, the program has undergone many changes, however, it remains a valuable resource to staff and students.

The V/I Program was initiated in 1970 at the Office of Adult Probation and was part of the Court Support Services Division.

In 2002, the program was transferred to the External Affairs Division to centrally locate it and provide all Judicial Branch staff and facilities access to volunteers and interns. Since that time, the V/I Program has expanded and improved its services to staff and students. Improvements include increased placements in non-probation offices; a more comprehensive and placement-specific orientation format; rigorous screening and interviewing process; and the establishment of new college and university affiliations.

The primary focus of the V/I Program is the recruitment, placement and supervision of interns. Requests from Judicial Branch staff for intern placements have increased over the last three years, with the spring and summer being the most requested semesters. The V/I Program model was amended to allow the staff to develop more placements within the Branch as well as to affect some cost saving measures for the Branch.

On average, the V/I staff spends approximately four hours per student to process an application, interview the applicant, establish a placement for the student and follow up once the placement has been made. Intern Orientation requires an additional eight hours of staff time, equating to a total of twelve hours per student.

Interns are recruited from various colleges, universities, law schools and professional institutions from across the country as well as



Some placements include:

- Hartford Community Court
- Waterbury Community Court
- Family Mediation
- Adult Probation
- Juvenile Probation
- Juvenile Detention
- Family Mediation- Pro Bono
- Court Service Centers
- Clerk's Offices
- Disciplinary Counsel
- Juvenile Matters
- Housing Session
- External Affairs Division
- Jury Administration
- Office of Victim Services
- Judges
- Support Enforcement
- Juvenile Matters

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The Value of Our Interns

Year	Total # of Applications Processed	Total # of Placements	Total # of Hours	Net Value of Service Hours
2005	631	495	60,762	\$1,096,146
2006	644	474	65,820	\$1,187,392
2007	548	437	65,158	\$1,271,232
2008	645	542	60,368	\$1,222,452
2009	456	424	67,751	\$1,412,608
2010	395	381	61,835	\$1,320,795
2011*	437	303	18,585	\$396,975

*This represents the first 8 months of 2011

Intern Program Supplements Branch Continued from page 1

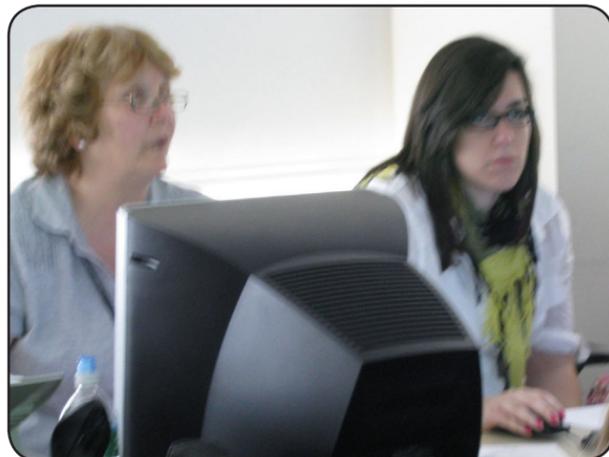
internationally. At the request of staff, interns are placed in facilities throughout the branch.

Since 2005, the V/I staff have processed and interviewed 3,756 students. Those interviews resulted in 3,056 students being placed with various Judicial Branch offices and facilities. These interns contributed a total of 500,279 hours to the Branch. The net value of service hours to the Branch equates to more than \$7.9 million.

The hourly rate of donated hours is determined by The Bureau of Labor, the value of which is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and non-supervisory workers on private non-farm payrolls (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

The Judicial Branch Intern Program provides students with the unique opportunity to obtain hands on experience. Additionally, their participation in this program assists in the development of their professional skills as well as determining their career path.

Spotlight on Orientation Trainer



The V/I Intern Program thanks CSSD Trainer Eve Melninkaitis, pictured above assisting an incoming intern. Eve had provided Case Management Information System Training to incoming interns for several years. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

A Multicultural Experience

The Judicial Branch External Affairs Intern Program attracts student from around the world. In 2011, the Intern Program hosted many students from several different countries.

Paa Kwesi Affail Cudjoe from Ghana
Orgeta Hila from Albania
Dobe Koudou from the Ivory Coast
Rukmin Rampersaud from Guyana
Soo Kim from South Korea
Wioletta Skrodzka from Poland
Jusi Wang from China
Julia Sedyk from Ukraine



Thank You to Our Volunteers

We sincerely thank all of the volunteers who donated their time, talents and energies to the following offices:

- Small Claims
- Supreme Court Tours
- Clerk's Offices
- Adult Probation Offices
- Public Information Desks
- Court Service Centers
- Juvenile Matters

To volunteer for the Judicial Branch, contact the staff representative in your area to learn more about placement opportunities. Contact information can be found at www.jud.ct.gov/vol/contact.htm.

Volunteer/Intern Program Serves the Needs of Connecticut's Students and Teachers

By Robyn Oliver
Program Manager

The External Affairs Division's Volunteer/Intern Program is known for the placements of interns and volunteers. However, External Affairs also offers a full continuum of educational services to students from upper middle school to law school.

"*Laws and the Courts - A Workbook for Upper Elementary Students*" was developed by the External Affairs Division and Civics First, formerly known as the Consortium for Law and Citizenship Education, Inc. This workbook is a vibrant, interactive educational tool that makes learning about Connecticut courts fun for upper elementary students. Annually, this workbook is made available to all upper elementary schools. Copies are available free of charge by contacting the External Affairs office.

The Job Shadow Program, which is offered annually from February 1 to April 30, is designed to provide an opportunity for high school students to shadow a Judicial Branch employee of their choice for one day with the goal of enhancing the student's understanding of that job and of the court system. Students are matched with a mentor at a location as near as possible to their school.

Calendar year 2010 proved to be the busiest Job Shadow year since its inception. The program hosted 73 students from 23 high schools across the state. Sixteen Judicial Branch staff from various divisions participated in the program during this year.

The Court Aide Program was added to the continuum of educational services in 2008. This program was designed for high school seniors who have an interest in government or law to assist with routine clerical duties while learning about the court system.

In addition to these programs, the External Affairs staff assists with the coordination and participation in high school career fairs.

During 2010, the staff participated in 15 career fairs across the state. Often, other Judicial Branch staff accompany External Affairs staff to provide presentations specific to their divisions.



Program Manager Robyn Oliver discusses opportunities within the Branch with students at a high school career fair.

Court Aide by the Numbers

This program is offered twice per year:

Spring Court Aide Program: May 1 to May 30
 Summer Court Aide Program: June 1 to July 31

In 2010, 21 students from 14 high schools participated in the Court Aide Program. In 2011, seven students from five high schools participated in the Court Aide Program. Students have been recruited from the following high schools and organizations:

- Branford High School
- Avon High School
- Hartford High School
- New Haven Academy
- Eli Whitney Technical High School
- Fairfield Ludlowe High School
- Montville High School
- Notre Dame High School
- Metropolitan Business Academy
- Coventry High School
- Warren Harding High School
- Pathways to Technology High School
- Bristol Eastern High School
- Daniel Hand High School