



Jon Tunheim PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Mission Statement

The Prosecuting Attorney's Office will perform its constitutional and statutory duties by serving as a highly skilled and innovative legal team advocating for public safety, seeking justice in criminal cases for victims and those accused, representing the interests of children, and providing effective legal services to Thurston County government.

Thurston County PAO Undergraduate Intern/Extern Program

The Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (Olympia, WA) is seeking applicants for extern (school credit) and volunteer intern opportunities. Students need to have completed at least one year of college. Both full-time and part-time intern and extern positions are available during the school year as well as the summer. Our office offers opportunities in the Criminal Division (Misdemeanor Trial Team, Domestic Violence Trial Team, Special Victims Trial Team, Juvenile Trial Team, and Appellate Team), Civil Division, Victim Advocacy, Public Records, Administration, Data Analysis, Policy, and Community Engagement.

Interns and externs are given various assignments throughout the office which can include assisting legal support, victim advocates, community outreach specialist, paralegals, Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys, and administrative staff. Each summer, interns are offered training by PAO Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys and Judges in the PAO summer intern workshops providing opportunities to learn about many aspects of the criminal justice and court system. Topics range from trial strategies and approaches in court to the impact of mental health on the criminal justice system.

In 2017 the Thurston County PAO in collaboration with WAPA (WA Assoc. of Prosecuting Attorneys) began offering law students training and experience in policy analysis and legislative advocacy. This internship option is available for summer as well as spring and fall semesters/quarters.

The Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has had a successful law clerk internship program for over 25 years. The PAO expanded the legal internship program in 2010 to include undergraduate students and have worked with many undergraduate schools including Washington State University, University of Washington, Gonzaga University, Willamette University, Dartmouth, University of Virginia, Saint Martin's University, Seattle University, University of Idaho, Evergreen State University, University of Virginia, and University of Montana in a successful partnership for students.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and references to: Christen Peters, Chief of Staff, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, christy.peters@co.thurston.wa.us (360) 786-5540.

Interviews for undergraduate Intern and Extern positions are scheduled throughout the year.

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