



**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE CLERK**

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MARK A. NEAL
Clerk of Court

Thomas C. Kearns
Chief Deputy

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
JUDICIAL LAW CLERK**

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 24-04 **APPOINTMENT:** Term (up to two years)

LOCATION: Greenbelt, Maryland **AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** Open to all

OPENING DATE: July 25, 2024 **CLOSING DATE:** Open until filled

SALARY RANGE: \$82,764-\$153,354 **START DATE:** on or about October 1, 2025
(JSP 11/01 – JSP 13/10)

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Honorable Maria Ellena Chavez-Ruark of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland is seeking applicants to fill one judicial law clerk position that will begin on or about October 1, 2025.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

The judicial law clerk is primarily responsible for researching a variety of legal issues, writing memoranda, drafting opinions, preparing for hearings, reviewing motions and proposed orders, assisting in case management, and performing general chambers duties. The judicial law clerk also provides counsel to the judge and members of chambers staff on legal matters affecting the administration of bankruptcy laws and performs other duties as assigned by the judge.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicant must be a law school graduate by the start date and possess excellent research, writing and computer skills. Proficiency in MS Office, Westlaw, and Lexis and advanced proficiency in MS Word are required along with a professional demeanor and exceptional organizational, interpersonal, and communication skills. Applicant must be admitted to practice law in at least one state or scheduled to take the Bar Exam as of the start date.

Bankruptcy coursework and experience on the editorial board of a law journal are desired but not required. Bar membership and at least one year of experience are required for salary placement above a JSP 11.

BENEFITS:

Judicial branch employees are “at will” employees and are not subject to the employment regulations of competitive service. However, benefits are similar and include paid annual and sick leave, eleven paid holidays per year, health and life insurance, a flexible benefits program, and a professional work environment. Salary will be based on experience and qualifications in accordance with JSP guidelines.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Applicant must be a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident actively seeking citizenship. As a condition of employment, the selected candidate must successfully complete a background check. Employment will be considered provisional pending the successful completion of the background check and a favorable suitability determination. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for payroll deposit is required.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications are confidential. An applicant must submit a single PDF containing:

- Cover letter;
- Resume;
- Completed AO 78 Application Form, which may be obtained at www.mdb.uscourts.gov;
- Law school transcript unless applicant graduated law school at least five years ago;
- Two writing samples (of no longer than 10 pages each) that have not been edited by anyone other than the applicant; and
- The names and contact information for three professional references.

An application package must be emailed to jobs@mdb.uscourts.gov (please include “Judicial Law Clerk” in the subject line). Please note that an application that is not submitted as a single PDF or is incomplete will not be considered. Alternatively, an application package may be submitted through OSCAR (<https://oscar.uscourts.gov/>).

An applicant is also requested to send a completed AO 78B Form, which may be obtained at www.mdb.uscourts.gov, to fair_employment@mdb.uscourts.gov.

Interview travel expenses and relocation expenses will not be reimbursed. The Court provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. All employees are required to adhere to the “Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees,” which is available for review upon request. The Court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, withdraw the job announcement, or fill the position at any time without any prior written or other notice. Please be aware that due to the volume of applications, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

THE COURT IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.