

STAFF ATTORNEY

Position Title: Staff Attorney
(GS-12/13/14)*

Salary Range: \$76,378 - \$139,523 (includes locality pay) *

Position Location: Central Legal Staff, U.S. Court of Appeals for
the Armed Forces, Washington, D.C.

Term: The position is an at-will, excepted service
position under Title 10, U.S. Code § 943, for
two years, with the possibility of a two-year
extension.

* Grade and salary will be determined based
on experience and qualifications.

POSITION OVERVIEW:

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces exercises world-wide appellate jurisdiction over appeals from courts-martial from all of the armed services involving a variety of legal issues including constitutional law, criminal law, military law, evidence, administrative law, and national security law.

The staff attorney serves on the Central Legal Staff of the Court, serving the Court at large rather than individual judges. The principal tasks of the staff attorney include:

- Performing a comprehensive legal review and analysis of petitions for review, to include a complete de novo review of records of trial;
- Performing a comprehensive legal analysis of extraordinary writs, motions, and other pleadings;
- Preparing legal memoranda on petitions for review or other pleadings, to include recommendations for disposition;
- Preparing orders of the Court on behalf of the Clerk of the Court;

- Performing other duties as assigned.

Because the staff attorney must be able to advise the Judges and the Clerk on difficult, varied, and important issues, the Court is highly selective in its hiring. The Court is looking for an individual who can analyze complex legal issues thoroughly and efficiently and express himself or herself clearly, both orally and in writing.

The staff attorney works in a highly collegial environment with other recent law school graduates and lawyers coming from judicial clerkships or private practice, as well as with more experienced supervisory staff attorneys and senior management.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Juris Doctor (JD) degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA), excellent academic credentials, and admission to practice law in any state or the District of Columbia.
- Superior legal research, analytical, and writing skills and proficiency in computer-assisted research and word processing.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Criminal litigation and law review experience is highly desirable.
- To qualify for a particular grade, the applicant must possess a JD degree from an ABA-accredited law school and be a member in good standing of the bar of a state or the District of Columbia (GS-12), and have worked for two years (GS-13) or four years (GS-14) as an attorney or law clerk after graduation.

BENEFITS:

Benefits include participation in health and life insurance programs, commuter benefits, paid holidays, leave accrual, and periodic salary increases. The Court is not

authorized to reimburse applicants for travel or moving expenses.

REQUIREMENTS:

Due to the nature of cases that are before the Court, the selected applicant will be subject to strict confidentiality requirements. In addition, employment is contingent upon the satisfactory completion of a background records check.

Applicants must be United States citizens or eligible to work for the United States Government. The selected applicant will be subject to mandatory electronic transfer of funds for payment of net pay. The United States Courthouse is a smoke-free building.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants must send a resume, cover letter, law school transcript, two letters of recommendation, and a writing sample not exceeding ten pages to:

**Ms. Gail Bissi
Administrative Specialist
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
450 E St, NW
Washington, DC 20442-0001**

The United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces is an Equal Opportunity employer, and does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.

There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference are encouraged to include that information in their cover letter or resume and attach supporting documentation to their submissions.