

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT



POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: CAFC-21-17

OPEN: September 20, 2021
CLOSE: Open Until Filled

POSITION TITLE, GRADE AND SALARY: Attorney
CL 30 - CL 31 (\$98,010 - \$172,500)
Salary determined by qualifications and experience.
Promotion up to the CL 31 may occur without further posting or competition.

LOCATION OF POSITION: United States Court of Appeals
for the Federal Circuit
717 Madison Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20439

About the Court

The United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit is unique among the thirteen Circuit Courts of Appeal. It has nationwide jurisdiction in a variety of subject areas, including international trade, government contracts, patents, trademarks, certain money claims against the United States government, federal personnel, veterans' benefits, and public safety officers' benefits claims. For additional information about our court please [click here](#).

Position Overview

The Federal Circuit is accepting applications for an attorney position in the Office of General Counsel (OGC). The position offers a unique opportunity to join a relatively small department that works closely with the Federal Circuit's judges and the Circuit Executive. The position will primarily assist the judges in resolution of motions and mandamus petitions. The attorney will work on a broad spectrum of matters, from pro se cases to complex patent litigation. The attorney will be asked to review and be familiar with the record and party filings, conduct legal research, draft memos and orders, present and discuss the cases with the judges, and provide advice regarding the appropriate disposition. The attorney will develop expertise in all areas of the court's subject matters, the Federal Rules of Appellate and Civil Procedure, and the Federal Circuit's local rules.

Required Competencies

Candidate must be a lawyer who is interested in all areas of the court's jurisdiction and federal appellate practice; have extensive knowledge of litigation in federal courts, including knowledge of the Federal Rules of Civil and Appellate Procedure and Evidence; have the ability to conduct legal research with all available sources and provide solutions based on that research; and be skilled in the oral and written presentation of complicated legal matters.

Required Qualifications

Candidates must possess at a minimum, a Juris Doctor (JD) degree from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association and be an active member of the bar of a state, territory, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a federal court of general jurisdiction.

Specialized Experience

- **CL 30:** A minimum of three (3) years of progressively responsible work experience as a lawyer (for a court, law firm, federal government agency, etc.) that provides the candidate with the particular knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the duties of this position. The overall experience must also include a minimum of 1 year of progressively responsible and substantial experience at the CL-29 or equivalent grade level. The preferred candidate will possess federal court experience.
- **CL 31:** A minimum of four (4) years of progressively responsible work experience as a lawyer (for a court, law firm, federal government agency, etc.) that provides the candidate with the particular knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the duties of this position. The overall experience must also include a minimum of 1 year of progressively responsible and substantial experience at the CL-30 or equivalent grade level. The preferred candidate will possess federal court experience.

Preferred Qualifications

The ideal candidate would be an attorney who (1) has a strong interest in all areas of the court's jurisdiction, the Federal Rules, and procedural and jurisdictional issues; (2) has prior clerking experience; (3) has excellent skills in legal research, analysis, writing, editing, and proofreading; (4) has patent litigation experience; (5) is detail-oriented and works efficiently and effectively to meet tight deadlines; and (6) has outstanding academic credentials (undergraduate degree in science or engineering is a plus, but not required).

Application Process and Information

To be considered, application packages must be complete and submitted using the provided online application system. Complete packages must include:

1. Cover letter wherein the applicant describes the knowledge, skills, abilities, and experience that would make her/him well qualified to fill this position
2. Resume outlining educational background, employment history, and other relevant information

3. Writing sample, limited to 10 pages, that does not consist of a law review or other work substantially edited by others
4. A list of two professional references that includes name, title, and contact information.
5. Completion of online AO-78, Federal Judicial Branch Application for Employment.

Once you have the cover letter, resume, and writing sample (items 1, 2, and 3 above) readily accessible in PDF format, follow the link below to submit your references (item 4 above) and files (items 1-3 above) and complete the online AO-78 (item 5 above):

<https://www.ondemandassessment.com/link/index/JB-EXPIBM66Y?u=116354>

Applicants who require an exception to the online application may contact Human Resources to request an alternate method using the following email:
hr@cafc.uscourts.gov

Other Information

Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted and must travel at their own expense. Reimbursement for relocation is not available.

The court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this announcement, commence interviews immediately, withdraw the announcement, or fill the position at any time, any of which actions may occur without notice.

Employees of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit are excepted service appointments. Federal government civil service classifications or regulations do not apply. All offers of employment are provisional pending successful completion of a background check or investigation and a favorable employment suitability determination. This position is subject to Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for payroll deposit.

Must be a U. S. citizen or eligible to work in the United States. Non-citizens may be interviewed and considered for employment, but employment offers will only be made to individuals who qualify under one of the exceptions in 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(3)(B). Under 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(3)(B), a lawful permanent resident seeking citizenship may not apply for citizenship until he or she has been a permanent resident for at least five years (three years if seeking naturalization as a spouse of a citizen), at which point he or she must apply for citizenship within six months of becoming eligible, and must complete the process within two years of applying (unless there is a delay caused by the processors of the application). Non-citizens who have not been permanent residents for five years will be required to execute an affidavit that they intend to apply for citizenship when they become eligible to do so.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.