UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Tana Lin
United States District Judge

700 STEWART STREET
Suite 13229
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101
(206) 370-8750

Externship Opportunity – Spring 2027

Judge Tana Lin of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington is excited to announce an open part-time externship opportunity in her chambers for a 2L or 3L law student from Seattle University School of Law during the Spring 2027 term.

Judge Lin is seeking a candidate with strong legal research and writing skills, a demonstrated commitment to public service, and a passion for expanding access to justice in our legal system. Judge Lin strongly encourages candidates of all backgrounds and experiences to apply.

About the Position

Judge Lin's goals are for the selected applicant to receive broad exposure to the work of the federal judiciary, develop their professional network, and build valuable skills for their legal career. The selected candidate will be expected to contribute to the day-to-day work of chambers by reviewing case submissions, researching substantive legal issues, observing judicial proceedings, drafting orders, and assisting with chambers administration. The extern/intern will work closely and collaboratively with Judge Lin's law clerks to complete research and writing assignments, participate in chambers discussions, and attend team meetings with Judge Lin. They will also have the opportunity to attend trainings and community and social events that occur during their time in the position.

Judge Lin is looking for a 2L or 3L law student who can commit to working in chambers for a minimum of 15 hours per week, ideally on two (2) full days between Monday and Thursday, although flexible scheduling and remote working opportunities may be available under appropriate circumstances. The extern/intern may seek school credit but is not required to do so.

Application Process

Judge Lin will be accepting applicants for this position until November 13, 2026. To be considered for the position, all required application materials must be submitted to simon_apter@wawd.uscourts.gov, including:

- Cover letter (addressed to Judge Lin)
- Resume
- Writing sample (5–12 pages)
    - Your writing sample should be accompanied by a cover sheet briefly explaining the context of the writing sample, the degree to which it has been reviewed or edited by others, and any other relevant information.
- Personal statement (no more than one (1) page, single-spaced, 12-point font) addressing the following:
    - What unique background or experience (personal and/or professional) do you have that will contribute to the work environment and work product of Judge Lin's chambers?

Candidates invited to interview for the position will also be asked to provide the following:

- An unofficial law school transcript
- A minimum of three (3) references, which must include at least one (1) professional reference from a supervisor, manager, or experiential learning instructor (e.g., a clinic professor)

The candidate selected for the position will also be subject to a background investigation with law enforcement agencies, including fingerprint and criminal record checks.

Candidates are encouraged to address any concerns they may have about the above application requirements in their cover letter or raise them during their interview, if applicable. Judge Lin does not intend for any of the above requirements to act as a barrier to any qualified candidate. Judge Lin will review all applicants holistically, and no single criterion will ensure a candidate's selection or disqualify them from consideration.