

RULE AT-7. UTILIZATION OF LAW STUDENTS AS INTERN LAW CLERKS TO JUDGES OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

(a) An eligible student may, with the approval of the student's law school dean or a faculty member of his or her law school and a judge of the Western District of Texas, serve as a part-time (intern) law clerk to that judge.

(b) In order to so serve, the law student shall:

(1) be duly enrolled in a law school approved by the American Bar Association;

(2) have completed legal studies amounting to at least two semesters or the equivalent;

(3) be enrolled in a course or program at his or her law school offering academic credit for serving as an intern law clerk to a judge; or

(4) be certified by the dean or a faculty member of his or her law school as being qualified to act as an intern law clerk. This certification may be withdrawn by the certifier at any time by mailing a notice to the judge supervising the student. Termination of certification by the certifier shall not reflect on a student's character or ability unless otherwise specified. A copy of such certification and decertification shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court;

(5) neither be entitled to ask for nor receive compensation of any kind from the court or anyone in connection with service as an intern law clerk to a judge (this shall not prevent a student from obtaining such financial aid as he or she would have been entitled to receive apart from service in the court);

(6) certify in writing, which certification shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court, that he or she has read and

a. is familiar and will comply with the Code of Professional Responsibility, Section 8, Article XII, Rules Governing the State Bar of Texas, Vol. 1-A, V.A.T.S., relevant provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct for United States Judges, including Canons 3-A(4) and 3-A(6), and this rule, and

b. will abstain from revealing any information and making any comments at any time, except to court personnel as specifically permitted by the judge to whom he or she is assigned, concerning any proceeding pending or impending in this court while he or she is serving as an intern law clerk.

c. A judge supervising an intern law clerk may terminate or limit the clerk's duties at any time without notice or hearing and without showing of cause. Such termination or limitation shall not be considered a reflection on the character or ability of the intern law clerk.

d. An attorney in a pending proceeding may at any time request that an intern law clerk not be permitted to work on or have access to information concerning that proceeding and, without a showing that such restriction is necessary, a judge shall take appropriate steps to restrict the clerk's contact with the proceeding. Attorneys shall be deemed to have notice of the fact that the Western District of Texas has an intern clerkship program upon the adoption of these rules; if no objection to participation by an intern law clerk is made, any objection will be considered waived.

e. For the purposes of Canons 3-A(4) and 3-A(6) of the Code of Judicial Conduct for the United States Judges, an intern law clerk is deemed to be a member of the court's personnel.

f. Forms for designating compliance with this Rule shall be available in the United States District Clerk's Office.

g. This rule shall become effective as of January 1, 1985.