

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20004

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement No.: 25-05

Issuing Date: December 09, 2025

Closing Date: Open until filled

Position: Judicial Law Clerk/Senior Law Clerk to the Honorable Scott J. Laurer
Flexible Term, Expedited Start Date for Law Clerk/more flexibility for Senior Law Clerk
Court Schedule: CS 13 for Law Clerk/14 for Senior Law Clerk (equivalent GS 13/14)

Note: Preference will be given to veterans; proof of eligibility must be submitted with application.

Summary. The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims has exclusive jurisdiction over decisions of the Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board). The Court reviews Board decisions appealed by claimants who believe the Board erred in its decision. The Court's review of Board decisions is based on the record before the agency and arguments of the parties, which are presented in written briefs, with oral argument generally held only in cases presenting new legal issues.

Conditions of Employment. Background security investigation is required for all new hires. Appointment is subject to successful completion of fingerprinting and background security investigation. Failure to meet these requirements will be grounds for termination.

Note: The selectee will be subject to a one-year probationary period and a 24-month minimum term commitment. This term may be extended by mutual agreement. Chambers is using a hybrid work schedule, combining telework and in-office work, which may be subject to change.

Who May Apply: For the Law Clerk position, applicants with at least 2 years of veteran's law experience.
For the Senior Law Clerk position, applicants with at least 4 years of veteran's law experience.

This appointment is excepted service, made without regard to Title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service.

General Qualifications for All Applicants. All applicants must (1) be a law school graduate, (2) have an active bar membership, and (3) have demonstrated at least one of the following accomplishments or proficiencies:

- Standing within the upper third of the law school class from a law school on the approved list of either the American Bar Association or the Association of American Law Schools;
- Experience on the editorial board of a law review of such a school; or
- Proficiency in legal practice or studies that, in the opinion of the appointing judge, is the equivalent of one of the above.

Specialized Experience for Direct Appointment as Law Clerk/CS 13. To qualify for the CS 13 Law Clerk position, a person must (1) have legal work experience practicing veteran's law for at least 2 years, and (2) exceptional legal analysis, research, and writing skills.

Note: After successful completion of performance standards for 2 years, promotion to CS 14 level is available, subject to Court policies.

Specialized Experience for Direct Appointment as Senior Law Clerk/CS 14. To qualify for the CS 14 Senior Law Clerk position, a person must have (1) legal work experience practicing veteran's law for at least 4 years, (2) exceptional legal analysis, research, and writing skills, and (3) judicial law clerk experience, or equivalent in the opinion of the appointing judge, leadership/supervisory experience.

Position Grade Levels. Current salary range including Washington-Baltimore-Arlington Locality Pay, as of issuing date, is:

- For the Law Clerk position: CS 13 (\$120,579 - \$156,755)
- For the Senior Law Clerk Position: CS 14 (\$142,488 - \$185,234)

Note: The General Schedule pay scale for 2026 is still under consideration.

Legal Work Experience. Legal work experience for this position means progressively responsible experience in the practice of veterans law, in legal research, legal writing, legal administration, or equivalent experience received after graduation from law school.

Instructions for Applying. Application *must include* the following material:

1. Cover letter
2. Resume
3. Law school and (if applicable) graduate transcripts
4. Self-edited writing sample, 10 pages maximum
5. List of references with contact information
6. Completed OF 306 (Declaration for Federal Employment, available at www.uscourts.cavc.gov/documents/of306.pdf)

Submit application to Judge Laurer's Confidential Assistant, Mr. Ed McGugin, at emcgugin@uscourts.cavc.gov. Email applications in .pdf format and combined in one attachment.

The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, age, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, religion, marital status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation.