

JUDGE PATRICK T. STANTON
Cook County Circuit Court – Chancery Division
Externship Opportunity

Judge Patrick T. Stanton is seeking Judicial Externs for Summer 2026. Judge Stanton sits in the Chancery Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

The Chancery Division handles civil cases seeking equitable remedies. Judge Stanton’s court call sees a variety of cases involving complex issues, including Class Actions, Corporate Dissolutions and Disputes, Statutory and Administrative Reviews, Will and Trust Construction, Trusteeships, Receiverships, Contract Disputes, FOIA issues, and Creditors’ Rights. The Chancery Division often hears cases related to the dissolution of Partnerships, Corporations, LLCs, and other types of “business divorces,” making the position a particularly good fit for those interested in business cases. There are also many emergency motions filed, such as requests for TROs, which are exciting and provide extra opportunity for externs to observe.

About the Position:

Judicial Externs will be given a variety of substantive assignments related to the cases on Judge Stanton’s docket, such as conducting research, writing bench memos, and drafting orders and opinions. Strong legal research and writing skills are required.

Externs will receive ample feedback on their work from Judge Stanton and his Law Clerks. Externs will also be given ample opportunity to observe daily court calls, contested hearings, trials, and other court proceedings before Judge Stanton and the other judges in the Chancery Division. Externs can expect regular interaction with Judge Stanton and his Law Clerks, as well as opportunities to meet and network with other Chancery Division law clerks and externs.

Externs are expected to observe Judge Stanton’s daily court call (status call at 9:30am and motion call at 10:00am, Monday through Thursday) at least twice per week. The number of days per week and hours per day is flexible depending on the Extern’s availability. We do ask, however, that Externs be available a minimum of [8] hours per week. While appearing in person is preferred, remote work is possible if circumstances so require.

This is a volunteer position. We are happy to work with your school so you can earn credit for your work, but we cannot offer any monetary compensation.

Requirements:

- Must have completed at least your first year of law school.
- Hours required: Minimum 8 hours per week for the judge but **for the externship program, the minimum is 32 per week.** (flexible between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. CST/CDT Monday through Friday, but 9:30am-10:30am twice per week required)
- Must successfully pass a drug test (including marijuana)
- While externing for Cook County, Externs may only hold a position with another employer if specifically allowed by Human Resources.

To Apply:

Please email a cover letter, resume, transcript, and writing sample (10 pages maximum) to Judge Stanton’s Chambers: ccc.chancerycalendar6@cookcountyil.gov. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.