**Work in the Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services Program!**

The Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services Program is part of the Community Defender Division at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. The program is comprised of a managing attorney and four staff attorneys. The Prisoner & Reentry Legal Services Program provides legal assistance and representation to people incarcerated for D.C. Code offenses and those in the community who are affected by collateral consequences of having a criminal record.

Specifically, our program serves D.C. prisoners at institutions operated by the D.C. Department of Corrections as well as across the nation in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. This includes legal representation of prisoners in D.C. Department of Corrections disciplinary hearings and prisoners in the Bureau of Prisons at U.S. Parole Commission parole consideration hearings. Our program also represents clients in the community seeking early termination of parole or supervised release, motions to seal prior criminal records, and in other matters where having a criminal record is serving as a barrier to their success.

Law clerks in our program are generally responsible for answering prisoner letters, representing prisoners at the jail in administrative disciplinary hearings, and assisting with record sealing motions. Letters from prisoners can cover a variety of areas, including case law research, medical care, staff abuse, institution transfer, and reentry resources. Administrative disciplinary hearings provide an opportunity for clerks to gain direct representation experience and develop skills in client interviewing, investigation, presenting oral argument and evidence to the D.C. Department of Corrections Adjustment Board, and writing appeals. Clerk responsibilities for record sealing motions include preliminary intake eligibility determinations, assisting in drafting motions and affidavits in support, client interviewing and investigation in some cases.

Clerks can also be assigned work in other areas as the need arises, such as early termination of supervision, sex offender registration, housing, and employment.

Requirements: 12-20 hours a week during the semester, full time during the summer

CDD’s office is accessible by metro on the Orange, Blue, and Silver lines at Potomac Ave.

Interested? Apply on-line at: <http://www.pdsdc.org/careers/law-clerkships-for-law-students> and also submit your application materials to:

In your cover letter, please indicate which academic semester you are interested in.