

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP (On Site; Not Remote)
Law Office of the Public Defender, Tenth Judicial Circuit
Bartow, FL (Central Florida)

Launch Your Career in the Courtroom

Are you a law student with a strong interest in becoming a public defender after graduation—specifically in Central Florida? Join our paid summer internship program and gain real, hands-on experience in one of Florida’s most respected and historic judicial circuits. Interns don’t just observe—they help draft motions, support trial teams, and contribute directly to case strategy. You’ll be mentored by experienced trial attorneys and see firsthand what it means to fight for justice in the courtroom.

Who Should Apply

- Any law student with a strong interest in becoming an assistant public defender in one of our offices after graduation. The internship is in our Bartow office, but there may be openings to work in our Sebring or Wauchula offices after graduation.
 - Summer positions are available for both rising 2Ls and rising 3Ls
 - 40 hours per week in our Bartow office (not remote)
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Why Choose Us

- **Paid internship:** At least **\$20 per hour**
 - Real courtroom exposure—not just desk work
 - Individual mentorship and active involvement in litigation
 - Interns are considered strong candidates for future full-time roles
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Make Your Mark Where History Meets Justice

Our circuit has a rich legacy of legal innovation and public service. Established in 1911, the Tenth Judicial Circuit has been home to some of Florida’s most storied legal minds and continues to carry that legacy forward in its commitment to justice for all.

Bartow, the seat of our circuit, has long stood as a hub of legal excellence. Home to the historic Polk County Courthouse—an architectural gem dating back to 1909—this region is steeped in the traditions that shape Florida law. Step into a role where history inspires advocacy and courtroom courage is part of the culture.

Why You'll Love It Here

The Tenth Judicial Circuit is more than a place to intern—it's a place to build your legal career. Our office is known for giving young lawyers meaningful responsibility early and the tools to grow into exceptional trial advocates.

Highlights of the area include:

- Located between Tampa and Orlando
 - Affordable housing and less congestion than major cities
 - Easy access to beaches, theme parks, and natural springs
 - Friendly communities with historic downtowns and excellent schools
 - Outdoor activities like hiking, fishing, and kayaking across hundreds of lakes and parks
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How to Apply

Email your résumé to pd10email@pd10.org. Include in your email that you are applying for the internship program.

Build your skills. Serve your community.

Start your path to becoming a public defender—right here in Central Florida.