Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law

Pro Bono Program

Pre-Approved Pro Bono Placements

The University of Memphis
Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law
Career Services Office
901-678-3217
lawcareerservices@memphis.edu
Advanced Directives Panel
http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901)255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org
Memphis Area Legal Services

This panel of volunteers provides legal assistance by drafting advance directives and last wills and testaments for individuals, including those with terminal illnesses or who are elderly. Law students and paralegals provide technical support to the attorneys and assist with the execution of the documents. Attorneys are invited to assist at senior citizen centers or houses of worship to draft and execute various advance directives.

Aging Commission of the Mid-South
www.agingcommission.org

Contact:
Dora Ivey, Executive Director
divey@agingcommission.org
Legal Assistance Program
(901) 222-4100

The Aging Commission of the Mid-South (ACMS) is the designated Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AADD) for Fayette, Lauderdale, Shelby and Tipton Counties in West Tennessee. The ACMS spearheads planning efforts to ensure the state of Tennessee is ready to accommodate the growing aging population and undertakes advocacy efforts on behalf of older adults and adults with disabilities.

Alternative Spring Break – Public Action Law Society
http://www.memphis.edu/law/career/asb2015.php

Contact:
Public Action Law Society ASB Coordinator
Professor Christina Zawisza, PALS advisor
czawisza@memphis.edu

The Public Action Law Society hosts Alternative Spring Break (“ASB”) annually. ASB began in 2010 when 15 Memphis law students traveled to Miami to help Haitians stranded in the US apply for temporary protected status. Since then, the program has grown to include numerous student volunteers from the University of Memphis and other law schools, to work locally in Memphis over spring break on various tracks each year. These tracks have included: Pro Se Divorces, Advance Directives, Immigration Issues, Human Trafficking Research, Public Interest Advocacy Research, Criminal Law with Street Court, Voter

American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee
www.aclu-tn.org

Contacts:
Hedy Weinberg, Executive Director
hedy@aclu-tn.org

Laurie Davis, Legal Department Associate
ldavis@aclu-tn.org

Internships & Law Clerk Program
(615) 320-7142

The ACLU of Tennessee (ACLU-TN) is dedicated to translating the guarantees of the Bill of Rights into realities for all Tennesseans. Some of the issues ACLU-TN fights for include: the right to free speech and expression, the right to freely practice any religion or no religion, the right to equal treatment, the right to reproductive freedom and the right to privacy. Law student volunteers are involved in research and preparation of legal memoranda, fact investigations, client and witness interviews, discovery, pre-trial motions, handling expert witnesses, as well as accompanying lawyers at court appearances.

Beacon Center of Tennessee
http://www.beacontn.org/

Contact:
Hannah Cox
hannah@beacontn.org

The Beacon Center identifies government barriers and works to eliminate them. They push for sound public policy at the state and local level, such as showcasing the benefits of repealing the death tax, empowering parents through school choice, and advocating for healthcare freedom, among other projects. The Beacon Center is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, and independent organization dedicated to providing expert empirical research and timely free market solutions to public policy issues in Tennessee.

Center for Arkansas Legal Services
http://www.arlegalservices.org/

Contact:
Main Office in Little Rock
(501) 376-3423
Center for Arkansas Legal Services (CALS) is one of two free legal aid organizations in Arkansas (the other being Legal Aid of Arkansas) that provides civil legal assistance to low-income Arkansans. The types of issues CALS deals with include: consumer law, education law, employment law, family law, health law, housing law, individual rights law, public benefits, veterans/military benefits, and wills and estates. CALS has multiple offices in El Dorado, Fort Smith, Hot Springs, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Russellville and Texarkana.

Clean Memphis  
http://cleanmemphis.org/

Contact:  
Janet Boscarino  
janet@cleanmemphis.org

The mission of Clean Memphis is to educating youth, engage leadership and empower communities to sustain a cleaner Memphis. They work closely with the Environmental Court on code violations. They also help secure grants for parks in need of improvements. Please note, law students must work in these legal service areas and not on clean-up project to receive pro bono credit.

Community Legal Center  
http://www.clcmemphis.com/

Contacts:  
Anne Mathes, Executive Director  
annem@clcmemphis.com  
(901) 543-3395

Emily Stotts  
emilys@clcmemphis.com

The Community Legal Center (CLC) offers legal services to thousands of lower income individuals and families in the Memphis area. Cases the CLC handles include: landlord/tenant disputes, garnishments, conservatorships and guardianships, commercial contract disputes, probate matters, non-contested divorces, adoptions and obtaining child support. CLC also offers the following services to low-income immigrants: asylum, u-visas, t-visas, change of status and voluntary departure. Law students who wish to volunteer should visit http://clcmemphis.com/volunteers/ for more information.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)  
http://memphiscasa.org/

Contact:  
Rebecca Lesley-Paulk, Coordinator of Recruitment & Training  
rilesia-paulk@memphiscasa.org  
(901) 405-8422
CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to advocate for abused and neglected children ensuring they do not get lost in the overburdened legal and social service system. Volunteers stay with a case until it is closed and the child is placed in a safe, permanent home. Law students can volunteer and will be thoroughly trained and well-supported by CASA staff. You must pass a background check, participate in a 30-hour pre-service training course and agree to stay with a case until it is closed.

---

**Courthouse Advice and Counsel Clinic**

http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901) 255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org
Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Area Legal Services holds this clinic from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm every Thursday in Room 134 of the Shelby County Courthouse. This weekly clinic, formerly known as the Attorney of the Day, needs one to two law students to assist pro se litigants in General Sessions Court in understanding the process and procedure they need to follow.

---

**Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee**

www.dlactn.org/

Contacts:
West Tennessee Office:  (901) 458-6013
Middle Tennessee Office:  (615) 298-1080
East Tennessee Office:  (865) 670-2944

Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee (DLAC) advocates for the rights of Tennesseans with disabilities to ensure that they have an equal opportunity to be productive and respected members of our society. Some of the issues DLAC assists with include: abuse and neglect outside of the home; discrimination in housing, transportation, and employment; access to programs and services; access to education; obtaining and utilizing assistive technology; and access to vocational rehabilitation.

---

**EEOC in Memphis**

http://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/

Contacts:
Faye Williams
Faye.williams@eeoc.gov

Kelley Thomas
Kelly.thomas@eeoc.gov
The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. It is also illegal to discriminate against a person because the person complained about discrimination, filed a charge of discrimination, or participated in an employment discrimination investigation or lawsuit. Most employers with at least 15 employees are covered by EEOC laws (20 employees in age discrimination cases). Most labor unions and employment agencies are also covered. The laws apply to all types of work situations, including hiring, firing, promotions, harassment, training, wages, and benefits.

Family Law Advice Group
http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901) 255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org
Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) office located 899-A Highway 51 South in Covington, TN, hosts a Family Law Advice Group meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 3pm to 5pm. During the meetings, members of our staff discuss and answer questions about divorce, the Parenting Plan law, mediation and child support.

Federal Public Defender
https://tnw.fd.org/

Contact:
David Bell
David_Bell@fd.org

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Western District of Tennessee was created in 1974 by the United States District Court under the authority of the Criminal Justice Act of 1964 (CJA), 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, to provide legal representation to those persons accused of a crime against the United States who are financially unable to afford private counsel. The office works to provide every qualified person accused of a crime effective representation of counsel per the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution.
Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) has been a HUD certified housing counseling agency since 1980. In 2008, a new project was created, The Home Preservation Project, to help the tens of thousands of families in Shelby, Tipton, Lauderdale and Fayette counties who face the prospect of losing their homes to foreclosure, largely as a result of irresponsible lending practices. Case handlers work with lenders to modify loans and determine the best options for homeowners who are at risk of homelessness. Our trained attorneys and counselors work to restructure loans and qualify for programs offered through federal funding and through lenders, with the ultimate objective of retaining and building equity in their homes.

Each JAG Corps division has opportunities for students to intern during the summer. (Note that if you are hired for a paid internship, your hours cannot count towards the Pro Bono Program. However, if you continue to volunteer after your paid internship is complete, these hours will count towards the pro bono requirement.) JAG interns get hands-on experience in a wide number of legal fields, including civil, criminal and international law. Interns draft briefs, conduct claims investigations, interview witnesses and assist in the preparation of courts-martial.

Just City

Just City was founded in 2015 by a group of activists, attorneys, and civic leaders who saw the need for a powerful, independent voice to support the individuals, children, and families who are, or have been in contact with, the criminal justice system in the Mid-South. They advocate for strong, consistent adult
and children's right to counsel policies and accelerate community-driven solutions to the problems presented by the criminal justice system.

Justice for our Neighbors
http://tnjfon.org/

Contact:
Adrienne Kittos, TN JFON Legal Director
adrienne.tnjfon@gmail.com
Nashville, TN

Justice for our Neighbors (JFON) is a faith driven ministry, welcoming immigrants into our communities by providing free legal services, education and advocacy. TN JFON offers monthly clinics to assist in different areas of immigration law including: advice and counsel, adjustment of status, family petitions, temporary protected status, naturalization applications, self-petitions under the Violence Against Women Act, T-Visas for victims of trafficking, special immigrant juvenile status, NACARA, and U Visas for victims of violent crime.

Juvenile Court’s Foster Care Review Board
www.fostercare@shelbycountytn.gov

Contact:
Pam Taylor
pam.taylor@shelbycountytn.gov
(901) 222-0919

The foster care review board is composed of citizen volunteers appointed by the juvenile court judge. The board advises the court about the permanency process of each child in foster care. In order to serve on the board you must attend a training session, be able to interview people from various backgrounds and demonstrate an interest in child welfare.

Latino Memphis
http://www.latinomemphis.org/

Contact:
Casey Bryant
casey@latinomemphis.org

For many Latinos living in Memphis, understanding their place in the complex legal immigration system is a daunting task. Derechos, a program of Latino Memphis, works to remove barriers to stability, safety, and self-sufficiency by addressing our clients’ legal issues affordably and without fear of judgement. The in-house legal immigration program, provides a full range of legal immigration services to low income
clients for nominal fees. Derechos staff also host information sessions, DACA clinics, and other community education events.

---

**Legal Aid of Arkansas**

**Contact:**

Kevin de Liban  
kdeliban@arlegalaid.org  
(870) 732-6370, ext. 2206  
West Memphis, AR

Legal Aid of Arkansas (LAA) is one of two legal service organizations (the other being the Center for Arkansas Legal Services) that provides civil legal assistance for low-income Arkansans. LAA has offices in Batesville, Harrison, Helena, Highland, Jonesboro, Mountain View, Newport, Springdale, and West Memphis. LAA’s West Memphis office is located just 15 minutes from the law school. The types of issues LAA deals with include: consumer law, education law, employment law, family law, health law, housing law, individual rights law, public benefits, veterans/military benefits, and wills and estates.

---

**Legal Aid of East Tennessee**

**Contacts:**

Terry Woods (Johnson City & Knoxville Offices)  
twoods@laet.org  
(865)637-0484

Charles E. McDaniel (Chattanooga Office)  
cmcdaniel@laet.org  
(423) 756-4013

Legal Aid of East Tennessee (LAET) serves over 26 counties from Chattanooga to Johnson City, providing a wide range of civil legal assistance and advocacy to people with low income. LAET has offices in Chattanooga, Cleveland, Knoxville, Johnson City, Maryville and Morristown. Law students should contact the Pro Bono Project Director in the area they would like to volunteer.

---

**Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands**

**Contact:**

(931) 552-6656  
Columbia (931) 381-5533

Legal Aid Society takes civil cases on behalf of low income clients. Legal Aid Society serves 48 counties and has offices in Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma. Law students can intern at any of the 8 offices.

- Clarksville (931) 552-6656
- Columbia (931) 381-5533
Memphis Area Legal Services
http://www.malsi.org/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901) 255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org

Memphis Area Legal Services, Inc. (MALS) is the primary provider of civil legal representation to low income families in western Tennessee. MALS assists clients in the areas of: domestic violence; mortgage foreclosure, eviction, or homelessness; wrongful denial of benefits; consumer fraud or predatory lending; child welfare; elder law; bankruptcy; and general advice and counsel on family law. MALS has two locations: Memphis and Covington. Law students can volunteer on different cases or get involved in a variety of projects such as the Saturday Legal Clinic, the Attorney of the Day Clinic, the Pro Se Divorce Project, the Bankruptcy Project or Conservatorship Project.

Memphis Child Advocacy Center
https://www.memphiscac.org/

Contact:
Megan Banet
mbanet@memphiscac.org

The CAC and helps facilitate the multi-disciplinary approach to intervention, investigation, prosecution and treatment of abuse. The Child Protection Investigation Team (CPIT) is comprised of the agencies in Shelby County that investigate and intervene in child sexual abuse and severe physical abuse. The CPIT is headquartered at the CAC and many representatives from those agencies are housed at the CAC. Representatives at the CAC include several specialized units of the TN Department of Children's Services, the Memphis Police Child Abuse Unit, and prosecutors from the District Attorney's Special Victims Unit.

Memphis City Attorney's Office

Contacts:
Barbaralette Davis, Dean of Interns
barbaralette.davis@memphistn.gov
Mary Ann Gillespie, Paralegal
mary.gillespie@memphistn.gov
The City Attorney’s Office, or Law Division, for the City of Memphis is headed by the City Attorney, Bruce McMullen, and his staff attorneys. Staff attorneys work in two basic areas: service and litigation. Attorneys working in the service area are assigned to provide legal advice to various divisions of City government as well as a number of boards and commissions. City attorneys working in litigation area defend lawsuits filed against the City. Note that externships with the City Attorney’s Office will not count as pro bono hours. However, if you continue your service after your externship is completed, these hours will count.

Memphis Housing Authority
http://memphisha.org/index.php/departments/legal-affairs

Contact:
Greg Perry, Sr. Staff Attorney
(901) 544-1100

The Memphis Housing Authority Legal Department provides legal guidance and representation to the Board of Commissioners and Executive Director. It handles all legal affairs related to the Memphis Housing Authority, which include labor negotiations, contracts, employment, construction, evictions, bankruptcies and civil litigation. It administers the agency loss-prevention program and is responsible for the oversight of the Protective Service Department.

Memphis Fair Housing Center
http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
(901) 432-4663

The Memphis Fair Housing Center (MFHC), through funding from federal, state and local grants, provides legal assistance to victims of fair housing discrimination and predatory lending, renters with landlord/tenant issues, and those facing foreclosure or homelessness. We are a HUD-approved housing counseling agency and adopter of the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education, Counseling and Foreclosure Prevention. The MFHC also assists veterans and their families who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless through the Supportive Services for Veterans and Families project.
Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and Development

Contact:
Richard Copeland, Director
Rick.copeland@memphistn.gov

The Division of Planning and Development (DPD) is a joint agency that serves both the City of Memphis and Shelby County government. Its mission includes the development of plans and programs that result in thriving and livable neighborhoods, safe and efficient buildings, and enhanced economic development opportunities. The agency deals with public policy issues that include residential, commercial, and industrial land use development standards; transportation and service delivery; and capital improvements. Work performed by DPD involves the collection and evaluation of data, research and analysis of options and alternatives, and the selection and implementation of projects and programs. DPD also makes recommendations and suggestions to the Memphis City Council and Shelby County Board of Commissioners, citizen advisory groups, and other agencies on comprehensive land use policies and plans, zoning recommendations, special permits, hazard mitigation, and subdivision regulations. The division is also directly responsible for the administration of the Unified Development Code (the Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations), special use permits, site plan approvals, and street mapping.

Metropolitan Public Defender’s Office
http://publicdefender.nashville.gov/about-us/

Contact:
Dawn Deaner
DawnDeaner@jis.nashville.org
Nashville, TN

The Mission Of The Metropolitan Public Defender’s Office is To Provide Zealous Representation and To Fight For Equal Justice for The Indigent Accused. The Public Defender’s Office represents clients in General Sessions Court, Criminal Court, Juvenile Court, and on cases appealed to both the Court of Criminal Appeals and the Supreme Court. The office has grown from a single full-time lawyer to a staff of over eighty, including forty-seven attorneys. The Public Defender’s Office employs investigators and social workers to assist with its work. The attorneys represent defendants on charges ranging from public drunkenness to first degree murder. The Office also provides guardian ad litem services for indigent children who are the subject of neglect and dependency proceedings in Juvenile Court.

Mid-South Immigration Advocates, Inc.
www.miamemphis.org/

Contact:
Sally Joyner, Staff Attorney
joyner@miamemphis.org
Mid-South Immigration Advocates, Inc. was founded by a group of experienced Memphis immigration attorneys who recognized a need in the community. MIA is the only non-profit law firm in Memphis whose core mission is to provide low-cost immigration representation to low-income clients. MIA also engages in community education and administrative advocacy in the Memphis metro area.

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services
http://www.nmrls.com/

Contact:
Ruby White
rwhite@nmrls.com

NMRLS provides attorney representation and advocacy to ensure equal access to justice for the most vulnerable members of society. Through constant training, self-analysis and community involvement NMRLS provides eligible persons the highest quality of legal and technical assistance, which improves the daily quality of life, while contributing to the attainment of social, economic, and legal equality.

Partnership for Educational Advocacy and Parity (PEAP)
http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Resource Center
901-523-8822 Ext. 101
PEAP@malsi.org

The Partnership for Educational Advocacy and Parity (PEAP) is a project funded by the Strengthening Communities Initiative through the University of Memphis and is a collaboration between MALS, the University of Memphis Department of Social Work, the University of Tennessee Boling Center for Developmental Delays, the Shelby County Regional Special Education PTA, and the University of Memphis School of Law. The project’s goal is to educate parents and interested professionals about the rights of children in special education programs and empower them to effectively advocate on their behalf in the IEP process.

Peer Power Foundation
www.peerpowerfoundation.org

Contact:
Malcolm Rawls, Director of Development
mvrawls@gmail.com
Peer Power is a non-profit organization that teaches public school students college and job readiness skills. Law students are needed to lead law-related programs, such as teaching basic advocacy or writing skills, and to counsel students on careers in the legal field.

---

**Project Homeless Connect**

Contact:
Chris Martin
chris.martin@shelbycountytn.gov

At least once a year, the Memphis community comes together for a massive one-day event to provide homeless individuals in Memphis and Shelby County with all the resources and services needed to leave homelessness. One of the resources offered to homeless individuals is legal assistance through a civil advice clinic and a criminal Street Courts program. Law students will have the opportunity to help with organizing the program, client intake, file preparation, and shadow attorneys during consultations.

---

**Pro Se Divorce Workshop**

http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901) 255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org
Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) holds pro se divorce workshops in its Memphis and Covington office locations. Aimed at low-income couples wishing to pursue a divorce without the expense of retaining an attorney, these workshops provide individuals with information and materials necessary for filing a pro se (Latin term meaning “for self”) divorce in court. Members of our staff provide forms needed to file and complete an uncontested no–asset divorce, assist in completing the forms, answer questions and give information about the legal issues and procedures involved.

---

**Rural Outreach Legal Clinic**

http://www.malsi.org/special-programs/

Contact:
Cindy Ettingoff
(901) 255-3421
cettingoff@malsi.org
Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS) conducts an outreach legal clinic each Thursday, from 9am to 3pm, at the Fayette County Commission on Aging, referred to by locals as “The Senior Center,” located at 108 Kay Drive in Somerville, Tennessee. They make every effort to see walk-in applicants. Please note that
adjustments may be made to clinic dates and times due to conflicting court dates, emergencies or other special circumstances.

---

**Saturday Legal Clinics**

Saturday Legal Clinics are held in Memphis and Covington where volunteer attorneys provide advice and counsel. Both clinics operate on a first come, first served basis and provide opportunity for members of the community to meet with an attorney to discuss their legal issues. Memphis clinics are held the second Saturday of every month at the Benjamin Hooks Main Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue, starting at 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM. The Covington clinics are held on a Saturday every other month at First Presbyterian Church, 403 S. Main Street, starting at 10:30 AM until 1:30 PM. New volunteers are welcome. This is a great way to network with attorneys in different practices areas and gain experience in various areas of law. *Please be sure to bring your laptop!*

---

**Shelby County District Attorney’s Office**


Contact:
Steve Jones
Steve.Jones@scdag.com

The District Attorney General and her staff prosecute all criminal cases on behalf of Memphis and Shelby County. Law students can intern at the DA’s office to receive pro bono credit. Note that externship hours do not count as credit unless you take on additional work after your externship hours are completed.

---

**Shelby County Pretrial Services**


Contact:
Richard Harrell
richard.harrell@shelbycountytn.gov

Pre-Trial Services is a comprehensive criminal justice agency offering programs that are alternatives to incarceration. Its operations range from bond settings immediately following the arrest process to providing supervision of offenders convicted and placed on county probation. Additionally, Pre-Trial Services also teaches classes on anger management, batterers’ intervention, job readiness, and parenting.
Shelby County Public Defender’s Office  

Contact:  
Phyllis Aluko  
Phyllis.Aluko@shelbycountytn.gov

The Public Defender’s office provides legal representation to indigent clients in all criminal matters in the General Sessions Court, Criminal Court, and Circuit Court of Shelby County. Law students can intern at the PD’s office to receive pro bono credit. Note that externship hours do not count as credit unless you take on additional work after your externship hours are completed.

Southern Migrant Legal Services  
www.trla.org

The Southern Migrant Legal Services is federally-funded and handles the legal needs of migrant and seasonal workers statewide.

Southeast Tennessee Legal Services  
www.selegal.org/

Southeast Tennessee Legal Services (STLS) is a project of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc. STLS is a public interest law firm seeking justice and opportunity for Tennesseans. Their programs are for victims of domestic violence and some consumer case.

Southern Environmental Law Center  
https://www.southernenvironment.org/

Contact:  
Allison Vonn-Love  
avonnlove@selcva.org

SELC has been the leading champion of the South’s air, water, and special places for almost three decades. Knowing how to work effectively in all three branches of government—and at the national, regional, state, and local levels—this non-profit organization has a powerful, flexible approach that consistently gets big results.
Special Education Advocate

Contact:
PEAP Resource Center at MALS
901-523-8822 Ext. 101
PEAP@malsi.org

Students interested in Civil Rights or Education law have the unique opportunity to be a Special Education Advocate. Special Education Advocates will volunteer through Memphis Area Legal Services to be partnered with a child with needs and his or her parent to help them receive accommodations required in the public school system.

Street Law

Students volunteer to teach survey law classes in high schools throughout the city. There is monthly panel at Central High school. Spots are also available at Hamilton High and at Soulsville Charter School on a more frequent basis. For the full schedule and the topics to be covered on that date please check TWEN. Also, before teaching a class you must speak with the current organization about a brief orientation.

Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services
http://www.tals.org/

Contact:
Samantha Sanchez
ssanchez@tals.org

This organization serves as a statewide coordination point for civil justice issues. They work to educate policy makers, advocates and the public about civil legal issues. They also connect vulnerable Tennesseans with civil legal help. Students who find a supervising attorney can gain pro bono hours with Online Tennessee Justice program.

Tennessee Board of Regents
https://www.tbr.edu/board/board-purpose-and-operations

Contact:
Heather Stewart
heather.stewart@tbr.edu

The purpose of the Board of Regents is to establish, govern, manage, and control the State University and Community College System of Tennessee. The Board of Regents develops a system organization
that will provide coordination of the system of institutions and area vocational-technical schools while at the same time preserving the unique qualities, integrity, and regional and community relationships of each of the institutions and schools. They provide essential centralized services and uniform procedures which will increase the individual effectiveness and improve operations of each of the institutions and schools of the system.

Tennessee’s Department of Children’s Services  
http://www.tn.gov/youth/

Contact:  
Helen Rodgers  
Helen.Rodgers@tn.gov  
Shelby County  
901-578-4179

The Tennessee Department of Children’s Services is the state’s public child welfare agency, overseeing child protective services, permanency, and juvenile justice. All volunteers must go through an extensive background check and clearance. To make your time at the placement worth it, they ask volunteers to commit a certain amount of time in the beginning. There are opportunities for interns to assist with drafting pleadings, interviewing witnesses, preparing cases for court, attending/observing court, preparing court orders and participating in post-court follow-up.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation  
http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/section/about-tdec

Contact:  
Karen Stevenson  
karen.stevenson@tn.gov

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of the natural environment by:

· Protecting and improving the quality of Tennessee’s air, land, and water through a responsible regulatory system;
· Protecting and promoting human health and safety;
· Conserving and promoting natural, cultural and historic resources; and
· Providing a variety of quality outdoor recreational experiences.

The department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. They deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. They also manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee’s rich natural, historical and archaeological heritage.
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition
http://www.tnimmigrant.org/

The Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) is a statewide, immigrant and refugee-led collaboration whose mission is to empower immigrants and refugees throughout Tennessee to develop a unified voice, defend their rights, and create an atmosphere in which they are recognized as positive contributors to the state. Students have volunteered with TIRRC in the past to help immigrants receive Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) and Naturalization.

Tennessee Justice Center
www.tnjustice.org

Contact:
Michele Johnson
mjohnson@tnjustice.org

The Tennessee Justice Center is a non-profit, public interest law and advocacy firm serving families in need. TJC gives priority to policy issues and civil cases in which the most basic necessities of life are at stake, and where their advocacy can benefit families statewide.

United States Attorney’s Office – Criminal Division
https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdtn/criminal-division

Contact:
Joe Murphy
joe.murphy@usdoj.gov

US Attorney’s Office represents the litigative and defensive interests of the United States. The Criminal Division is responsible for prosecuting a variety of cases in the areas of federal criminal law including: fraud, public corruption, public safety, general crimes and drug and firearm possession.

Volunteer Income Taxpayer’s Assistance (VITA) Program

Contact:
Cecil C. Humphreys Professor of Law William Kratzke
wkratzke@memphis.edu
(901) 678-3221

Students from Memphis Law started a VITA program under the supervision of Professor Kratzke. The VITA program provides free current year income tax preparation assistance for low-income taxpayers in Shelby County. From February until early April, the VITA program will operate on Wednesday afternoons. Students must go through training and pass an online test to volunteer.
West Tennessee Legal Services
www.wtls.org

Contact:
Ashley Holliday
ashley@wtls.org

- Main office/Jackson (731) 423-0616
- Dyersburg (731) 285-8181
- Huntingdon (731) 986-8975
- Selmer (731) 645-7961

West Tennessee Legal Services (WTLS) is a non-profit organization that provides civil assistance to individuals, families, and communities located in West Tennessee. WTLS serves 17 counties: Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Dyer, Decatur, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henry, Henderson, Lake, McNairy, Madison, Obion, and Weakley. WTLS handles the following types of cases: access to health/medical care, securing or retaining housing, ensuring compliance with Fair Housing laws, securing or retaining income, personal freedom and security rights, parental rights with state action, rights of persons in institutions, freedom of all persons from abuse, family issues, education rights, consumer rights, and community education.

Veterans’ Clinic

This clinic is held from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the VA at 1407 Union Avenue. Four to five volunteers usually deal with expungements, driver’s license reinstatements, divorce and child support issues. Be sure to bring your laptop!

Youth Court

Contact:
Avis P. Lamar
avis.lamar@shelbycountytn.gov
(901) 405-8720

Youth Court is the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County’s first juvenile delinquency diversion and peer-justice program. Using restorative justice principles, Youth Court is dedicated to rehabilitating first-time nonviolent offenders by holding them accountable and educating them about citizenship. Volunteers help prepare high school students to prosecute, defend and to serve as bailiffs and jurors in “real” sentencing hearings of juvenile offenders. Law students (2L & 3L) are encouraged to volunteer by serving as jury monitors and court clerks. Court hearings are held at the Juvenile Court on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 5 to 7 pm. Only 4 law students will be able to volunteer per semester.