



# Third Chair

## Criminal Defense Clinic for Law Students

*hosted by:*

**FEDERAL PUBLIC  
DEFENDER**  
DISTRICT OF KANSAS

---

MELODY BRANNON, FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
KIRK REDMOND, FIRST ASSISTANT  
CHE RAMSEY, ASSISTANT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

---

## SUMMER 2020 PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Kansas is pleased to sponsor Third Chair, a 2020 summer criminal defense clinic for law students who are interested in public service. Our goal is to develop diversity in the field and to provide first-hand experience in holistic public defense.

With offices in three cities and a total staff of 43, the FPD provides high-quality attorney representation, investigative support, expert witness services, and any other needed legal services to indigent defendants at all stages of litigation. We serve clients charged with all types of federal crimes, including immigration violations, drug and weapon offenses, and computer and white-collar crimes. In addition to district court work, we practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

Many of our clients come from impoverished and over-policed minority communities. As part of holistic defense and outreach, the FPD offers poverty simulation programs, victim reconciliation, and assistance in resolving collateral impediments such as outstanding warrants. We use data collection and analysis to identify and explore challenges to implicit bias.

Third Chair will introduce students to the federal criminal-justice system and how we represent our clients. A brief overview:

- Students will review discovery, research and draft memoranda and motions, and help develop trial and sentencing strategy. They may also assist in our appellate and certiorari practice.
- Students will attend court, shadow experienced attorneys, work on assigned cases, participate in attorney training and CLE programs, and assist with collection of fact and mitigation information.
- Substantive educational sessions covering all facets of a federal criminal case will be presented by the FPD. Guest speakers will include federal judges, magistrates, prosecutors, probation officers, private attorneys, and former clients.

Students are expected to devote 40 hours per week in nine-week program beginning June 1, 2020. This is a firm start date with few exceptions. Feedback will be provided along with a formal evaluation, if requested. The program will be stationed in Kansas City, Kansas; and may travel to our branch offices in Topeka and Wichita. Students are required to abide by KSFPD's confidentiality policy, and to act at all times in the best interest of KSFPD's clients.

This is an unpaid internship; however, we will work with your schools to meet criteria for credit or other support, if available. Limited outside funding for stipends may be available. Generally, students choose to live in Kansas City, Kansas or Kansas City, Missouri.

Interested students must complete an application (available online) and submit it by email, along with a one-page cover letter explaining your interest in the office of the Federal Public Defender; a writing sample (no more than five pages, please); and two references or letters of recommendation.

An application and directions are available on our website, [www.ks.fد.org](http://www.ks.fد.org). The deadline is March 9, 2020; positions are filled on a rolling admission basis, with each applicant considered as soon as the application is complete. Please contact Che Ramsey, AFD, at 913.551.6911 with questions, and email materials to [che\\_ramsey@fd.org](mailto:che_ramsey@fd.org).

Kansas City Division  
500 State Ave, Room 201  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
913.551.6712  
Fax 913.551.6562

Topeka Division  
117 SW 6th Ave, Ste 200  
Topeka, KS 66603  
785.232.9828  
Fax 785.232.9886

Wichita Division  
301 N Main, Ste 850  
Wichita, KS 67202  
316.269.6445  
Fax 316.269.6175

---

<sup>1</sup> Students cannot enter an appearance or directly represent anyone in federal court.