

**Honorable Charles M. Walker
United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Tennessee
Nashville Division**

Judicial Externship Program

Judge Walker employs law students on a volunteer basis as judicial externs in his chambers on a semester basis. The externs are supervised by Judge Walker's career law clerk, Mary Wilson. Also providing chambers staff support is Judge Walker's paralegal, Leah Johnson.

The externs are provided training in motion briefing and docket preparation, research, issue identification, case management, court decorum, and various other duties performed by law clerks to federal judges.

The externs work closely with chambers staff, specifically the law clerk, and are afforded opportunities to participate in discussion with Judge Walker regarding pending matters and rulings, as well as attend court sessions including motion dockets, evidentiary hearings, including trials, and oral arguments.

The program has been described as a training format for federal judicial law clerks and several externs have gone on to judicial law clerk appointments.

Judge Walker hires 1-3 externs per semester and encourages collaboration between the students on projects. The externs will also become part of Judge Walker's extern "family" – a network that is encouraged and maintained by chambers staff.