



# 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 2017 PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Kansas is pleased to introduce Third Chair, a 2017 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 public defense.

With offices in three cities and a total staff of 40, the FPD provides high-quality attorney representation, investigative support, expert witness services, and other needed legal services to indigent defendants at all stages of litigation. We serve clients charged with federal crimes, including immigration violations, drug and weapon offenses, and computer and white-collar crimes. We litigate appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court, and some postconviction actions as well.

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, restorative justice, custodial GED programs, and assistance in resolving collateral impediments such as outstanding warrants and detainers. We use data collection and analysis to identify and explore challenges to implicit bias. Students will have the opportunity to work in these areas and develop their own holistic defense proposals and projects.

Students are expected to devote 40 hours per week in either a five-week or a ten-week program beginning May 30, 2017. Feedback will be provided along with a formal evaluation, if requested. The program will be stationed in Topeka, Kansas; students will also work in Kansas City, Kansas, and may travel to our branch office in 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

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 will also be exposed to our office's appellate and certiorari practice.
- Students will meet with clients, both in custody and on release, and their families to address collateral issues, such as outstanding warrants, housing, employment, immigration, health, and addiction issues.
- Students will attend court and accompany attorneys at the counsel table, shadow experienced attorneys, work on assigned cases, participate in attorney training and CLE programs, and assist fact and mitigation investigators.
- Substantive educational sessions covering all stages and 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.

This is an unpaid internship; however, we will work with your schools and other resources to meet criteria for credit or other support, if available. We are also exploring outside funding for stipends and housing options in either Topeka or Lawrence (located between Kansas City and Topeka). Some transportation may be available.

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.

The Federal Public Defenders Office District of Kansas is an equal opportunity employer and complies with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital/parental status, gender identity, gender expression or any other status or classification protected by federal law. We encourage students of all backgrounds to apply.

An application and directions are available on our website, [www.kansasfpd.org](http://www.kansasfpd.org). The deadline is February 24, 2017; positions are filled on a rolling admission basis, with each applicant considered as soon as the application is complete. Please contact Che Ramsey, AFPD, 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
--	--	--