

**Treatment Courts and Court Resource Center Intern
Pierce County District Court**

Department: Pierce County District Court
930 Tacoma Ave S., Suite 239
Tacoma, WA 98402

Title: Intern (2 positions)

Term: Spring 2019

About Pierce County District Court:

The mission of Pierce County District Court, as an independent and impartial branch of government, is to promote respect for law, society and individual rights; provide open, accessible and effective forums for dispute resolution; resolve legal matters in a just, efficient and timely manner and assure the dignified and fair treatment of all parties.

Pierce County District Court is a court of limited jurisdiction hearing the following cases:

- Traffic and non-traffic infractions
- Criminal and criminal-traffic misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors
- Civil matters for damages for injury to individuals or personal property and contract disputes no greater than \$100,000
- Small claim matters for recovery of money not to exceed \$5,000
- Name changes
- Anti-harassment protection orders
- Stalking protection orders

The intern will work with Treatment Courts and the Pierce County District Court Resource Center. Treatment Courts emerged in the 1980s as the foundation of justice reform in efforts to reduce the growing cocaine epidemic. Treatment Courts are an intervention aimed to offer supervision, accountability and most importantly-treatment. Treatment Courts not only reduce recidivism, but they improve education, housing, financial stability and support for participants that are engaged. According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, Problem-Solving Courts refer more people to treatment than any other intervention and are proven to be more successful than traditional probation.

The Pierce County District Court Resource Center (CRC) has partnered with numerous professional service providers within the community. The variety of service providers present at the Pierce County District Court Resource Center allows for collaborative problem solving among providers and therefore more comprehensive service plans for individuals. The service providers located at the CRC include but are not limited to substance use and mental health providers, housing navigation services, employment and education training, jail transition services, child support payment planning, SSI enrollment, case management.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Interns will be involved in the expansion of Treatment Courts and in the daily operations of the Court Resource Center. Interns will assist in data collection regarding services utilized at the CRC as well

as demographic information and re-offense data of Treatment Court participants. Interns will attend Treatment Court planning meetings to ensure evidence-based practices are being utilized.

Specific duties include but may not be limited to:

- Complete intake and exit interviews with treatment court participants,
- Research treatment court practices and provide updated practices to Treatment Planning Teams,
- Enter data into active treatment courts and CRC spreadsheet,
- Attend and take meeting notes at Treatment Planning meetings,
- Assist CRC staff with the Just Threads clothing bank,
- Assist with planning, setup, and tear down of CRC events, and
- Direct visitors to services at the CRC.

Qualifications:

- Currently seeking a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or a closely related field,
- Proficient in utilizing Microsoft Office programs,
- Experience conducting research,
- Ability to comply with federal HIPPA regulations regarding confidentiality,
- Self-motivated,
- Strong attention to detail,
- Excellent time management skills,
- Organized, and
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Additional Information:

The intern position is a temporary unpaid position with an anticipated commitment of 10 hours per week for the entire spring term. Students should complete the following steps to be considered for the internship:

1. Students who are interested should contact Barb Toews, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Criminal Justice Program for a pre- interview.
2. Interested students must meet the requirements for the internship course (TCRIM 498), which are detailed on the internship course website:
<https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sias/internships>.
3. A cover letter and resume are also required.
4. Those who meet the requirements will be referred to Pierce County District Court.
5. Please be aware that if you are hired as an intern for this agency, you must undergo a criminal background check.