The Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Community Defender for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is pleased to accept applications for our summer internship program from law students interested in public service and criminal law.

The Capital Habeas Unit represents death-sentenced prisoners in post-conviction proceedings in Pennsylvania and other jurisdictions. Through a multi-faceted team approach, the Capital Habeas Unit provides its clients with the highest level of legal representation, while priding itself on treating its clients with dignity and respect. Over the course of the summer, students will:

- Draft motions, memoranda, and briefs.
- Research forensic issues, including DNA, fingerprints, hair and fiber, and ballistics.
- Assist in factual investigation and develop case strategy by reviewing and digesting medical and institutional records and transcripts of prior proceedings.
- Assist in investigation of witnesses.
- Meet with clients to discuss their cases.
- Observe hearings and oral arguments.
- Substantive training on all stages and facets of post-conviction litigation will be presented by the Capital Habeas Unit.

The internship is open to current 1Ls and 2Ls. Qualified students are encouraged to apply electronically by submitting a cover letter, resume, and transcript (unofficial is satisfactory) to Ayanna Williams, Assistant Federal Defender, at PAE_InternshipCHU@fd.org, by October 16, 2020. Applicants should highlight their commitment to public interest, any background or specialty in psychology, and advocacy experience. Interviews and hiring will be on a rolling basis.

The internship is unpaid; however, we will work with schools and other resources to meet the criteria for work study, course credit, or other support. Students are expected to devote 40 hours per week for a ten-week program beginning June 1, 2021.

The Capital Habeas Unit 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.