

# Externship Program

## Position Description and Application Information

Zero Abuse Project (<https://www.zeroabuseproject.org>) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, with a mission to protect children from abuse and sexual assault by engaging people and resources through a trauma-informed approach of education, research, advocacy, and advanced technology. The organization is based in St. Paul, Minnesota, but works nationally and internationally.

### Legal Externship Description

Externship positions at Zero Abuse Project focus on training and technical assistance for child abuse prosecutors and multidisciplinary teams across the nation. We have an endless supply of legal research and content development opportunities, with a strong emphasis on experiential learning that would provide great value to future lawyers. We are seeking help with:

- Legal research and content development for prosecutorial training and publications. Research topics will vary, but focus on practical guidance to child abuse prosecutors, investigators, and other multidisciplinary team members;
- Drafting practical publications such as, "Responding to Child Abuse During a Pandemic";
- Preparing training materials for upcoming prosecutor training; and
- Providing technical assistance to prosecutors, law enforcement, and forensic interviewers on active child abuse cases.

### What we are looking for

- Demonstrated passion for child advocacy and prosecution
- Strong writing and editing skills
- Excellent academic and legal research skills

### What you will receive from us

- Practical experience countering defense arguments in child abuse cases, drafting legal briefs and publications for child abuse prosecutors, and researching responses to common scenarios faced by prosecutors
- Hands-on experience to build a foundation for careers in prosecution, criminal law, or family law
- A commitment to be accessible, communicative, and reliable
- Regular feedback and guidance
- Weekly invitations to attend specialized training courses for child abuse prosecutors

## Supervision

Selected externs will report to Robert Peters or Victor Vieth.

## Commitment/Schedule

School year externs are expected to commit to an externship period of *at least* 10 weeks for 8 hours per week, which includes a standing meeting with their supervisor. Work hours are flexible, though externs must be available at least 2 business hours per week.

Summer externs are expected to commit to an externship period of *at least* 9 weeks for 28-30 hours per week, which includes a standing meeting with their supervisor. Work hours are flexible, though externs must be available at least 20 business hours per week.

## Location

All externships are virtual/remote.

## Compensation

Externships during the school year will most likely be unpaid and may be used for course credit.

## Application Process

To apply please send a current resume (including GPA and class rank), writing sample (no length restrictions), and a cover letter explaining your interest in the position and what you hope to gain from it to: [externships@zeroabuseproject.org](mailto:externships@zeroabuseproject.org).

Applications are reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis.

*Questions may be directed to [externships@zeroabuseproject.org](mailto:externships@zeroabuseproject.org)*