



### **Preparing for the Judicial Internship/Externship Interview:**

- **Research the Judge.** (Google the judge, court website, read opinions, be familiar with high profile cases they presided over.
- **Know your application materials inside and out.** Resume, cover letter, and writing sample. All is fair game for questions.
- **Research your network.** Ask students who interned for the judge previously, or, simply interviewed with the judge.
- **Be aware that you may not meet the judge at your interview.** Some judges have their clerks conduct the interview, and make the hiring decisions.

### **Possible Interview Questions:**

- Tell me a little about yourself before we start.
- What interests you about interning for a judge?
- Why do you want to intern for me?
- Why did you choose law school?
- Why Santa Clara Law School?
- What areas of law interest you?
- What is your favorite class (and why)?
- What do you like most about law school/find most challenging?
- How would you describe your legal writing right now?
- What are some of your interests/hobbies outside of law school?
- What do you think is your greatest weakness? Greatest strength?
- Do you have any questions for me? (Yes! Always say yes!)

### **Questions to ask:**

- What are some of the types of work the interns get to do?
- Is there an opportunity to observe court?
- If you are being interviewed by the clerk/s ask them what they like most about clerking for this judge.

### ***After the Interview:***

- Send a grammatically perfect/typo free thank you email that day.
- Judges are known for making quick decisions. After the interview the judge may make you an offer on the spot. You are expected to give them an answer on the spot, so be prepared for this possibility. If not, you can expect a quick turn around between interview and response be it offer or rejection.