



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RICHARD SEEBORG

Chief Judge

San Francisco Division

450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Oakland Division

1301 Clay Street
Oakland, CA 94612

San Jose Division

280 South 1st Street, Room 2112
San Jose, CA 95113

Eureka-McKinleyville Division

3140 Boeing Avenue
McKinleyville, CA 95519

Position: Term Judicial Law Clerk to Magistrate Judge Lisa J. Cisneros

Classification Level: JSP-12/01 - JSP-13/10

Salary Range: \$111,896 - \$172,980, Depending on Experience and Qualifications

Location: San Francisco, CA

Opening Date for Applications: January 6, 2026

Closing Date for Applications: Open Until Filled

POSITION OVERVIEW

The U.S. District Court, Northern CA, is seeking a Judicial Law Clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge Lisa Cisneros in San Francisco, CA. Duties include extensive legal research and writing on a full range of civil and some criminal issues arising in federal court, as well as some administrative duties. The position will commence on August 3, 2026, and end 18 months after the term start date, unless extended.

We are generally an in-person chambers, but hybrid may be possible after the first month of service.

QUALIFICATIONS

A qualified applicant will be an active member of the Bar of any state, have an excellent academic record, exceptional research, writing, organizational and communication skills, a strong work ethic, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team. Applicants must have at least two years of post-graduate legal experience. Prior clerkship experience is a plus, but not required.

COMPENSATION

Compensation will be set based on experience and qualifications pursuant to the policies and guidelines set forth in the Judicial Salary Plan.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The Court reserves the right to modify the conditions of this job announcement, or to withdraw the announcement without prior written or other notice.

The successful candidate for this position is subject to a FBI fingerprint check and background investigation (employment will be provisional and contingent upon the satisfactory completion of the required background investigation), will be required to adhere to a code of conduct (which is available upon request), and is subject to mandatory direct deposit of federal wages. The court is not authorized to reimburse travel expenses for interviews or relocations.

Interviewing Non-Citizens and Making Offers of Future Employment: Non-citizens may be interviewed and considered for employment, but employment offers will only be made to individuals who qualify under one of the exceptions in 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(3)(B). In most cases, this means that an offer of employment cannot be made unless the candidate is a lawful permanent resident who is seeking U.S. citizenship as explained below.

Under 8 U.S.C. §1324b (a)(3)(B), a lawful permanent resident seeking citizenship may not apply for citizenship until he or she has been a permanent resident for at least five years (three years if seeking naturalization as a spouse of a citizen), at which point he or she must apply for citizenship within six months of becoming eligible, and must complete the process within two years of applying (unless there is a delay caused by the processors of the application).

Equal Opportunity Employer

The United States District Court for the Northern District of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage applications from all qualified individuals and seek a diverse pool of applicants in terms of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, disability, religion, and socio-economic circumstance.

Where appropriate and necessary, the court provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation for any part of the application or hiring process, please notify the Human Resources Unit of the Clerk's Office at 415-522-2147. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please submit a cover letter, resume, writing sample, list of references, law school transcript, and recommendation letter via Judge Cisneros's clerkship posting on OSCAR, the online system for federal clerkship applications. The OSCAR website is <https://oscar.uscourts.gov>.