**COMPASSIONATE RELEASE PRACTICUM**

**Application**

COVID19 has hit prisons extremely hard leaving many without relief. The First Step Act changed the compassionate release process expanding criteria and allowing easier access to courts. Stetson’s Compassionate Release Practicum will explore the compassionate release process in the federal system and students will work on actual compassionate release petitions alongside the Middle District of Florida’s Federal Public Defender Office.

This will be a one-credit pass/fail full semester course. Satisfactory completion of criminal law is a prerequisite to participating in this practicum. All instruction and work will be done virtually. There will be two synchronous sessions with dates announced in advance of the semester.  Students will meet with the attorneys for feedback on their weekly assignments throughout the semester. Students will have to undergo a background check conducted through the Federal Public Defender’s Office.

Under the American Bar Association’s Standards, students may not receive monetary compensation for their work.

Overseeing Professors are Professor Ellen S. Podgor and Professor Judith Scully

**Instructions**

* **Complete the entire application.** Incomplete applications will not be considered.
* **Answer all questions truthfully.** Any materially false or misleading statement will result in the applicant’s automatic disqualification and may result in referral to the Conduct Code or Honor Code investigator.
* **Include a copy of your resume and unofficial transcript.**
* **Submit** your completed application (with attachments) electronically to Ryan Hoyle rwhoyle@law.stetson.edu with a copy to clinicaled@law.stetson.edu
* Applications are due by 9:00am, Monday July 27, 2020.

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**Application**

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Last Name First Name Middle Name

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Street Address City State Zip Code

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Primary Phone Secondary Phone Email Address

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Anticipated Graduation Date Current Cumulative GPA Class Rank

I am applying for following semester (circle one): Fall

**To participate in this practicum, students must have completed all first-year required courses, including Legal Research & Writing II, and have at least 30 total credit hours.** Before the applicable semester, I expect to have successfully completed:

\_\_\_\_ **All first year required courses, including R&W II**

\_\_\_\_ **At least** **30 credit hours**

***Please answer each question completely and accurately:***

**Have you taken or are you currently planning to take (in the upcoming semester) any clinics or externships?**

**Are you in the Social Justice Advocacy Concentration?**

**Are you currently employed in a part-time or full-time capacity? If yes, please provide details of the employment, including the nature of work (this information is necessary to avoid conflicts of interest).**

**List all activities or obligations that will require a significant commitment of your time during the applicable (period of participation) semester (e.g., advocacy board, law review, outside employment not detailed above, pro bono, family demands, or other courses).**

**Explain in approximately one paragraph your reason for wanting to be a part of the Compassionate Release Practicum.**

**Have you ever been investigated for a Conduct Code or Honor Code violation, or subjected to discipline at any educational institution after high school? This question includes any pending matters.**

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No ***If yes, submit a full statement of relevant facts on a separate sheet of paper.***

**Have you ever been convicted of violating a law or ordinance?**

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No ***If yes, submit a full statement of relevant facts on a separate sheet of paper.***

**Do you have any pending arrests, or are you the defendant in any open civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in which it has been alleged that you (a) engaged in an act of violence, (b) used alcohol, (c) used or distributed illegal drugs or engaged in the illegal use or distribution of drugs, or (d) committed fraud, or (e) breached a trust or position of confidence?**

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No ***If yes, submit a full statement of relevant facts on a separate sheet of paper.***

**By signing below, I affirm the following:**

* The information I have supplied in this application is complete and accurate.
* I have attached a copy of my resume and transcript to this application.
* I understand that I am prohibited from receiving compensation for services performed in connection with my practicum experience.
* I understand that conflict-of-interest rules prohibit me from providing services during the time I am participating in the practicum, either paid or pro bono, to any entity other than the Federal Public Defender, without first providing written notice to the Federal Public Defender and receiving permission from the Federal Public Defender and the College of Law to do so.
* I understand that I have a continuing duty to report employment to the College of Law throughout the applicable semester for which I am registered.
* I understand that I must immediately notify Professors Ellen Podgor and Judith Scully if I wish to withdraw my application from consideration or am unable to complete my participation during the forthcoming/applicable semester.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_