

PDS SUMMER INTERN PROGRAMME

Gain practical experience in a criminal defence practice environment. Develop your legal knowledge and skills and apply them in the real world.

What we do

We provide legal advice and representation to defendants who are granted legal aid in criminal cases. We also oversee the duty lawyer services in the courts where we operate.

We receive around 12,000-13,000 cases a year and our mix of senior, intermediate and junior lawyers are employed to undertake a full range of criminal legal aid cases.

The PDS is an independent professional, people-centred criminal law practice providing high quality and independent criminal defence and duty lawyer services in 10 major metropolitan centres throughout New Zealand.

ABOUT THE SUMMER INTERN PROGRAMME

The PDS Summer Intern Programme provides New Zealand university law students in their penultimate year of study with an opportunity to gain practical experience in a criminal defence practice environment.

As a PDS Summer Intern you will:

- Work on criminal legal aid cases
- Undertake legal research, draft legal submissions and affidavits
- Observe client interviews and court appearances

"It is evident that the PDS is a firm which provides extensive experience, support and training" – Alex, PDS Auckland

"I got the opportunity to go on prison visits, watch appeals in the High Court and Court of Appeal, get

involved with different training sessions, and be involved in client meetings." – Helen, PDS Manukau

"The advice I was giving affected real people who I then had the opportunity to meet and talk to in a very personal capacity" – Duncan, PDS Tauranga

What we offer

- Full time, three-month fixed term, paid positions in 10 offices across New Zealand.
- High quality and practical mentoring and coaching from senior criminal lawyers.
- Opportunity to attend parole hearings, the district court, prison visits, police station visits and specialised training.
- A collegial and supportive team environment and flexibility within the workplace.
- Summer Intern roles are advertised each year in May.

What we look for

We are looking for law students who are in their penultimate year of study and:

- Have knowledge of criminal law and a passion for justice issues.
- Have experience in social justice (e.g community law centre).
- Are versatile self-starters who have a strong work ethic and are client-focussed

Visit our [website](#) for more information about the PDS and career opportunities.