



Summer 2026 Law Clerk Position- Remote

FVAP is seeking 1-3 law clerks to join our dynamic team for Summer 2026. The 2026 Summer clerkship is generally expected to be a 10-week clerkship for around 35 hours per week, but the length and hours may be adjusted as needed. Starting weeks may be flexible based on the start and end of a clerk's academic semester, quarter, or year.

FVAP serves individuals and advocates throughout the state, including rural, urban and suburban populations. The ideal candidate will bring skills and experiences enabling them to serve these and other populations well in the context of domestic violence appellate litigation. FVAP is an equal opportunity employer. In upholding social justice principles and to best meet the needs of our clients, FVAP is committed to supporting a diverse staff and providing culturally responsive and trauma responsive services. Individuals of all races, ethnicities, national origins, religions, ages, sexes, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, as well as differently abled persons, survivors of domestic or other forms interpersonal violence, candidates from traditionally underrepresented communities and historically oppressed groups, bilingual and bicultural candidates, and those who are the first in their family to complete college or attend graduate school, are encouraged to apply.

Family Violence Appellate Project is the only organization in California dedicated to appealing cases pro bono on behalf of survivors of domestic and other forms of interpersonal violence. We are committed to shaping California law to meet the need for survivors and their children to make choices that are best for them. We are also committed to supporting the statewide network of domestic violence and legal aid service providers. FVAP's work includes:

- Representing clients' pro bono in the California Courts of Appeal,
- Submitting amicus curiae briefs in cases of statewide and national importance,
- Monitoring unpublished cases and requesting publication of important cases that would contribute to the body of caselaw supporting survivors,
- Engaging in legislative and systems change advocacy efforts,
- Providing training, technical assistance, and written informational materials, and
- Facilitating information exchange among statewide and regional and local stakeholders supporting survivors.

If you are interested in being part of this exciting social justice organization and resource for domestic violence survivors and advocates across California, this is the place for you! You can learn more at www.fvaplaw.org.

Essential Duties:

Duties may include the following (other duties may be assigned):

- Assisting with an active pipeline of case referrals, including:
 - completing an initial case analysis, which includes but is not limited to:
 - reviewing the trial court record and analyzing the legal issues in the case
 - making a preliminary recommendation on whether FVAP should accept the case for appeal
- Conducting legal research and writing
- Assisting FVAP's work with pro bono co-counsel to file appellate and amicus curiae briefs and prepare for oral argument
- Analyzing and presenting social science literature in the field of domestic violence
- Assisting with updating and improving FVAP's written materials and trainings
- Assisting with FVAP's work and engagement with stakeholders including technical assistance
- Contributing overall to FVAP's work to achieve its organizational mission

Required Qualifications and Experience:

- Completion of at least one year of law school at an accredited school
- Excellent communication and writing skills
- Strong organizational skills
- Strong ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Significant understanding of issues specifically facing clients in crisis and low-income clients
- Strong ability to adapt to changing work environment and complete time-sensitive assignments thoroughly and on time
- Strong legal research skills
- Knowledge of the dynamics of domestic violence, domestic violence law and/or family law, either through course work or work experience or other experience. (Work or experience in other areas of interpersonal violence may qualify)

Strongly Preferred but not Required Qualifications and Experience:

- Experience with civil trial or appellate court documents and procedure, particularly family court
- Experience working directly with clients in crisis
- Litigation experience at the trial or appellate level
- Completion of a course or clinical work in Evidence, Domestic Violence Law or Family Law
- Experience with writing legal concepts in plain language for non-lawyers

Funding: For Summer 2026, FVAP has been fortunate to obtain funding from the State Bar of California's Legal Aid Leaders Fellowship Grant Program. The grant provides funding up to \$7500 per law clerk for up to three clerks. Some additional requirements come with the funding including, but not limited to, attending trainings and participating in feedback. Law clerks may also be eligible for additional funding through their schools or other sources but should take care to ensure whether there are any offsets or restrictions. Law clerks may also be eligible for course credit in addition to funding through their law school or other sources. We encourage prospective law clerks to explore their funding and credit options as soon as possible. FVAP can provide support letters and other documents as needed in support of funding and/or credit if you are offered a clerkship.

To Apply: Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. At this time we do not have a cutoff date for applications or a deadline by which we will have a decision but in the past have generally continued recruitment through early February. If you must know by a certain date for credit registration or funding purposes, please clearly state that in your email and cover letter.

Please email the address below a cover letter, resume, and a list of the classes you have taken and registered for *or* a transcript (unofficial is fine). Please write in the subject line that you are applying for 2026 Summer Law Clerkship.

All applicant emails: avasan@fvaplaw.org

Attn: Arati Vasani, Senior Managing Attorney
Family Violence Appellate Project, 1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1847, Oakland, CA 94612

Your cover letter should speak to:

- 1) why you are interested specifically in working at FVAP
- 2) how your background or experiences have prepared you to contribute to our mission and our work including performing the required duties, and any preferred qualifications you may have, and
- 3) how your background or experiences have prepared you to contribute to our commitment to diversity and cultural humility amongst our team of staff, interns, and law clerks.

Feel free to think broadly about your response to these questions, applying various aspects of your life and personal experience.

Thank you for your interest in FVAP!