



THOMAS J. MILLER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

## Department of Justice

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December 31, 2015

The Honorable Mark S. Cady  
Chief Justice, Iowa Supreme Court  
Judicial Building  
LOCAL

Mr. Michael Marshall  
Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Ms. Carmine Boal  
Chief Clerk of the House  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Re: Annual Report for 2015 for the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program

Dear Chief Justice Cady, Secretary Marshall, and Chief Clerk Boal:

In accordance with Iowa Code section 13.2(1)(m), our office is pleased to submit this report on the operation of the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program during 2015. Only a few updates and alternations are required from last year's report regarding this successful and long-standing program.

This program offers second and third-year law students the opportunity to serve as prosecutor interns in the offices of Iowa county attorneys. Students in the program become involved in all aspects of a county attorney's responsibilities and receive opportunities for work in the courtroom as well.

To become eligible for the internship, a student must complete either a certification course at the University of Iowa College of Law or pay tuition and receive course credit through Drake University Law School. In either case, the student is under the supervision of a faculty supervisor during his or her summer internship. In addition to training and intern supervision, the in-state law schools provide administration assistance to help match county requests for interns with students interested in the program.

The respective county governments hire and pay eligible interns who work in the county attorney offices. Summer internships are a major component of the program but a few counties retain interns during parts of the academic year as well.

For 2015, seventeen interns participated in the summer program. Opportunities for these students ranged from second-chairing felony trials to drafting motions to giving opening statements. As a part of the internship, our office hosted a day-long seminar in Des Moines. The seminar included a tour of the Polk County Jail, a discussion with Judge Carol Coppola about jail court procedures, and the observation of a motion to suppress hearing at the Polk County Courthouse that involved the use of a police body camera as evidence. Interns described the internship program as "a great experience."

For 2015, this office again provided a partial reimbursement of summer prosecutor intern wages for counties who submitted applications. The goals of the reimbursement program include increasing the number of and enhancing the quality of prosecutor intern candidates.

This year, five counties qualified for partial reimbursement of intern wages: Bremer, Linn, Pocahontas, Scott, and Washington. It is anticipated that the reimbursement program will continue in the summer of 2016, with funding provided by the Attorney General's asset forfeiture fund administered pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 809A.

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Just as it has over the past many years, the Iowa Prosecutor Intern Program, mandated by the legislature, makes important contributions to the criminal justice system. We look forward to its continued successful operation into the future.

Sincerely,



Kevin McCarthy  
First Assistant Attorney General



Kelli Huser  
Assistant Attorney General

CC: David Boyd, State Court Administrator  
Sydney Kronkow, Judicial Branch Legislative Liaison