



THE NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL FELLOWSHIP

HIGHLIGHTS FISCAL YEAR 2019-20

281 Unique Research Projects
115 for superior court
166 for district court

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES

- Motions for appropriate relief
- General issue research
- Constitutional litigation
- Equitable distribution
- Case-specific research
- Review of complex filings
- 2.1 complex civil cases
- Three-judge panels
- Order drafting and editing
- Pro se litigation
- Judicial toolkits
- In-courtroom assistance
- And more

CONTACT

Office: 919-890-1670

Fax: 919-890-1970

Email: TrialResearch@NCcourts.org

Website: NCcourts.gov/Fellowship



The North Carolina Judicial Fellowship provides independent, confidential, and timely legal support for the judges of the district and superior court benches of North Carolina with regard to the matters over which those judges preside. The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts launched the Fellowship in April 2017 upon a recommendation of the North Carolina Commission on the Administration of Law and Justice.

The Fellowship supports trial court judges on a wide variety of research and writing projects in all subject matter areas. Fellows have conducted both case-specific and generalized research, assisted judges in drafting orders, and attended trials and hearings to provide real-time, in-person support. The Fellowship employs a central intake and assignment process, and Fellows work collaboratively in order to provide quick, accurate, and comprehensive responses.

The Fellowship staff comprises attorneys who demonstrate academic excellence and who represent a diversity of experience and subject matter familiarity. Fellows serve two-year, staggered terms in order to provide for cross-training, continuity of work flow, and predictability of staffing needs. The Fellowship is based at the North Carolina Judicial Center, but Fellows routinely travel to aid judges in courthouses throughout the state.



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FELLOWSHIP CREATED AS RECOMMENDED BY NCCALJ FINAL REPORT

In September 2015, Chief Justice Mark Martin convened the North Carolina Commission on the Administration of Law and Justice (NCCALJ) and tasked its members with making recommendations to strengthen North Carolina's courts. The Civil Justice Committee recommended providing research support staff for judges of the superior and district courts. In response, NCAOC launched the Fellowship in April 2017, the first recommendation from the entire report to be fully implemented.

www.NCCALJ.org