



Deputy Court Clerk - Magistrate II

Jenna Holzer



I don't think I ever really planned on becoming a court clerk. I just knew I was fascinated by the criminal justice system, and when the opportunity came along, I wanted to be a part of it.

In high school, I took a class called Current World Affairs. History wasn't really my thing—I was much more interested in what was happening right now. One way we could earn extra credit was to become a registered voter. When I turned 18 during my senior year, I registered to vote.

Little did I know that decision would lead me straight into the world I was so interested in.

After registering to vote, I was called for jury duty six different times. The final time, I was selected for Grand Jury for six months. At the time, I was working at the beauty school and had to report every other Wednesday for six months. I remember dreading it at first, but as time went on, I absolutely loved it.

I became fascinated by the entire process. I enjoyed hearing about the serious crimes occurring in our community and learning how investigations, attorneys, law enforcement, and the court system all worked together. I even remember Judge Davis coming in each week for indictments to be signed, often wearing his Pactola sweater. Those little details stuck with me.

By the end of my Grand Jury service, I knew that if there was ever an opportunity for me to work in the criminal justice system, I wanted in.

Not long after that, a position opened at the Clerk of Courts. I was having a difficult time at my job and was ready for a change. I applied at the Clerk's Office. I remember sitting in my first interview with multiple people looking back at me. I was nervous, but then I recognized Judge Davis. I told the interview panel about my





Grand Jury experience and explained that after those six months, I knew this was the kind of work I wanted to do.

And here I am, 11 ½ years later.

I started my career in the juvenile area of the Clerk of Courts, where I quickly learned that being a clerk was about much more than processing paperwork. I enjoyed learning the different processes, working with attorneys and other parties, and being part of a system that helped keep things moving.

I later moved into the jury area, where I worked closely with judges, attorneys, jurors, and staff. COVID brought an entirely new set of challenges, including holding trials in places like barns and the mall. I enjoyed finding ways to make things work and seeing all the behind-the-scene details come together.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to learn many different areas of the office and eventually became a supervisor. Today, one of the things I enjoy most is helping train and support our employees and watching them learn and grow in their own roles.

When I look back, it is funny to think that registering to vote for extra credit in a high school class would eventually lead me to a career I never expected to have. What started as an interest in crime and current events, and wanting to understand what was happening in my community, turned into 11 ½ years of a career I truly enjoy.

Being a Deputy Court Clerk is much more than a job. It is being part of a system that affects real people and real lives. There are difficult days, complicated situations, and plenty of challenges, but there is also a tremendous amount of satisfaction in knowing that the work we do matters.

And after 11 ½ years, I'm glad I took that chance.

