



This recruitment was extended to August 5, 2020.

The job qualification section was amended to, "Experience as a judge or judge pro tem is preferred, but not required."



Municipal Court Judge

Presides over and adjudicates court and jury trials for

City of Lakewood

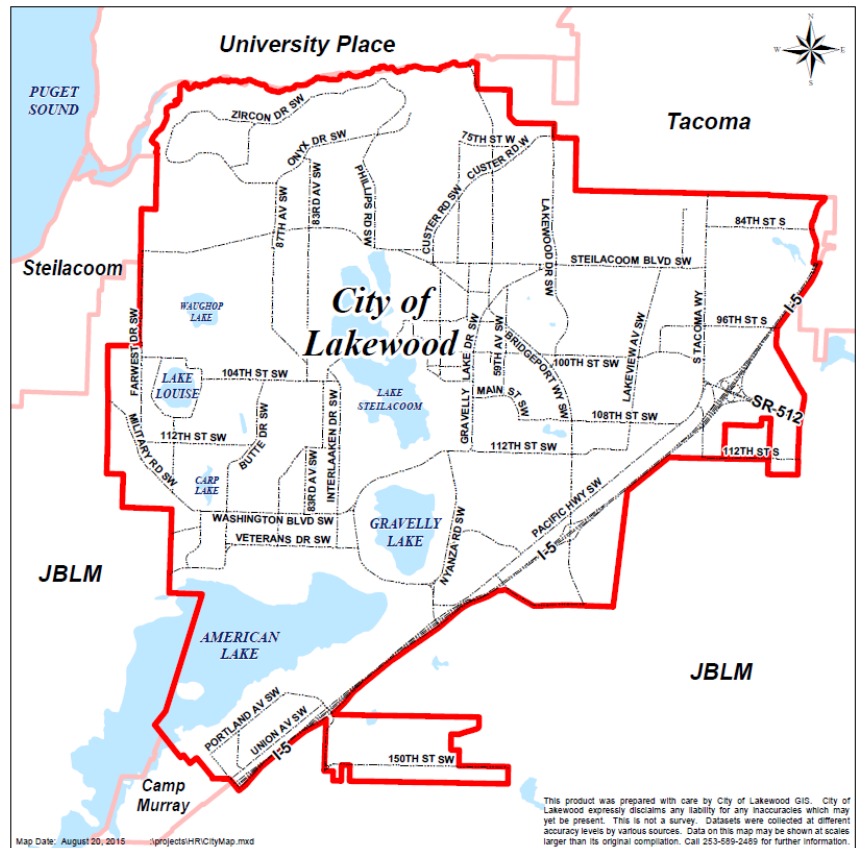
and

City of University Place, City of DuPont and Town of Steilacoom

This recruitment is to fill the unexpired term of the Municipal Court Judge. The current 4-year term expires December 31, 2021.

Incorporated in February of 1996, the City of Lakewood, Washington is adjacent to Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) along the I-5 corridor. The City is 20 square miles in area with a population of 59,670 and is the second largest city in Pierce County.

The City of Lakewood has inter-local agreements to provide court services for the cities of University Place and DuPont and the Town of Steilacoom.



THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE POSITION:

The City of Lakewood operates under the council-manager form of government. The City Council, City Manager and client cities of University Place and DuPont and Town of Steilacoom recognize and support the need for judicial independence. Consistent with General Rule 29, the Municipal Court Judge has independence from the executive and legislative branches in carrying out the Court's purely judicial responsibilities while effectively coordinating with City administration as necessary. For example, the Municipal Court Judge operates independently in presiding over the Court and cases coming before the Court, and as a Department Director will report to the City Manager to address the Municipal Court's use of available resources in delivering court services.

The Municipal Court Judge is a member of the City's Executive Leadership Team. The successful candidate will be a dynamic leader with excellent supervisory skills, a collaborative partner with other City departments, and will have a solid understanding of municipal finance and budgets.

Staff for the Municipal Court currently includes a Court Administrator and 8.5 FTEs who perform court clerk, court compliance officer, and administrative support functions. The Judge appoints, supervises, and trains all Pro-Tem Judges.

The Municipal Court work plan includes transitioning to a paperless system and the continuation of the Veteran's Court.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF THE JOB:

The Municipal Court Judge is the Presiding Judge for Lakewood, University Place, DuPont and Steilacoom Municipal Courts and directs the judicial operations of the Court. The Judge hears all cases within the scope of a municipal court, and takes other actions to fulfill the obligations of the Court as established by State law or City Ordinances. Criminal jurisdiction is over both misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases. The Court also has exclusive jurisdiction over traffic infractions.

The Judge presides over and adjudicates a variety of hearings and trials related to criminal and civil cases in accordance with established legal procedures and as prescribed by Washington State law; imposes appropriate sentences and penalties and communicates with City, County, and State criminal justice agencies. The Municipal Court Judge is appointed by the Lakewood City Manager and confirmed by the City Council for a four-year term as set by statute. Client cities must independently appoint a municipal Judge. Historically each city has appointed the same Judge. This recruitment is to fill the final year and a half of the current unexpired four-year term.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be a United States citizen and resident of Pierce County, have a Juris Doctor degree and be an attorney on active or judicial status with the Washington State Bar Association. Experience as a practicing attorney for at least five (5) years, including at least two (2) years criminal law experience. Experience as a judge or judge pro tem is preferred, but not required. Additional requirements include a successful criminal background investigation, a review of his/her file with the state bar association, acceptance of an oath of office, and ability to be bonded. Prior organizational leadership and supervisory experience are required.



MUNICIPAL COURT STATISTICS:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	To 3/31/20
Infractions	9,062	10,455	10,453	7,718	7,910	6,494	7,638	1,327
Driving Under Influence	201	192	269	214	159	142	179	32
Criminal Traffic	2,404	2,063	2,135	1,710	1,489	1,345	1,179	269
Criminal non-Traffic	1,640	1,595	1,793	1,646	1,449	1,700	1,692	367
Photo infractions	11,573	10,631	10,761	15,107	14,413	15,680	16,644	4,162
Court Hearings	19,905	18,362	18,865	14,993	15,670	16,655	17,056	3,165
Photo infraction hearings	701	466	368	398	364	333	298	89
Jury trials	22	10	9	9	4	4	2	0
Lakewood-retained Municipal Court local revenues	\$1,444,550	\$1,375,717	\$1,328,007	\$1,030,358	\$897,286	\$798,411	\$812,771	\$213,002
Photo infraction local revenues	\$794,159	\$713,702	\$688,559	\$912,705	\$807,556	\$828,460	\$950,064	\$246,716
Total Court Revenues (includes amounts remitted to contract jurisdictions and the State)	\$2,704,345	\$2,743,868	\$2,962,743	\$3,375,620	\$3,105,308	\$2,996,431	\$2,995,923	\$759,498

SALARY AND BENEFITS:

The Municipal Court Judge is a .75 FTE employee of the City of Lakewood and a .25 FTE for services to client cities. The position is salaried and exempt from FLSA. The current salary is \$13,120 monthly. A competitive benefits package includes leave accrual, paid holidays, and health insurance benefits.

The City of Lakewood provides a social security replacement plan (401A) and a qualified, defined contribution retirement plan (401A) in lieu of state retirement.

***NOTE: Starting in 2022, the Municipal Court Judge is expected to be a 0.7 FTE of the City of Lakewood and a 0.1 FTE for services to contract municipalities: the city of DuPont and town of Steilacoom.**

SELECTION PROCEDURES:

Recruitment for this position closes Wednesday August 5th, 2020 at 3:00 pm PST. City application, resume and cover letter will be accepted through the City's online application process. To apply– go to www.cityoflakewood.us and click on:

Jobs...

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Municipal Court Judge...

Apply...

Please contact Human Resources at (253) 983-7711 if you have questions or need assistance.