

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Meghan Lapointe named Judicial Fellow for the 2021-22 school year

Meghan Lapointe has been named a Judicial Fellow for the 2021-22 school year by the Delaware Judiciary and the Institute for Public Administration at the University of Delaware's Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration.

Lapointe, 21, of Pembroke, NH, is studying for her Master of Public Administration at the University of Delaware. This is the fourth year for the Judicial Fellows Program for the Delaware Judiciary, which launched in January 2017.

Lapointe received her BA in Public Policy from the University of Delaware and is also a figure skating judge along with being a member of the Delaware Figure Skating Team, where she serves as competition chair. She is also active in 4H and holds a Pharmacy Technician License in the state of New Hampshire.

Lapointe said she was interested in becoming a Judicial Fellow because she wanted to get a better understanding of the law and public policy, but is not necessarily interested in becoming an attorney at this point. "I always read the rule book from front to back. I like structure and understanding processes," she said.

Prior classes of Judicial Fellows focused on pandemic planning; researching how to help ease the debt burden for inmates due to fees; participating in the preparation, planning and launch of Delaware Courts' Community Court initiative; and contributing to Access to Justice initiatives. This semester, the Judicial Fellow will focus on the administrative impact of legislation related to fees and fine reforms along with other court initiatives.

The Judicial Fellows Program (<https://www.sppa.udel.edu/ipa/student-opportunities/judicial-fellows>) is a joint effort between the Delaware Judicial Branch and the Biden School's Institute for Public Administration (IPA) and is modeled on IPA's successful and long-running Legislative Fellows Program. In the Judicial Fellows Program, a full-time graduate-level student works with the Delaware Administrative Office of the Courts, gaining on-the-job experience while assisting court staff research pressing government and legal issues and implement solutions.