

## Interview Questions

Judson Davis  
Special Assistant United States Attorney  
Age: 31

**1. *What are your responsibilities at the U.S. Attorney's Office?***

I prosecute immigration related criminal cases, advise law enforcement agents regarding criminal investigations, and help officers build cases for federal prosecution.

**2. *Please describe your organizational structure (e.g., what department are you in, who do you report to, etc.).***

I am paid by the Department of Homeland Security and report to the Chief Counsel in Dallas. While I am on detail to the US Attorney's Office I report to the Deputy Chief for the General Crimes section.

**3. *What do you find most challenging in your position?***

I think the most challenging aspect of the job is learning the procedure for prosecuting cases in federal court. I think it is daunting knowing that I represent the USA and my actions reflect on the government in general.

**4. *What do you most enjoy about your position?***

I enjoy working for the government and knowing that I can pursue justice rather than just advocating for my client. It is rewarding to feel like I am upholding the law and to see that those who violate the law are punished. It is also a very enjoyable work environment; all the attorneys at our office are pursuing the same goals and they are very willing to take the time to mentor younger attorneys like myself.

**5. *What do you wish you had known earlier in your career?***

For me personally, I wish I would have known how much I would enjoy criminal law and trial work so I could have taken advantage of opportunities to learn more about those areas.

**6. *What opportunities does a young attorney have for career development or advancement with-in your organization?***

I think there are a lot of ways a young attorney can learn and grow, and there are opportunities to get into management positions later on in your career.

7. ***Sometimes lawyers within firms express a desire to go in-house because of the perception of better work-life balance as an in-house attorney. How is your work-life balance?***

Working for the government generally does give you a good work-life balance. Depending on how much you are in trial, you may be working extra, but for the most part it is a good balance.

8. ***Has the change in the economy affected your job? And if so how?***

The economy hasn't directly affected my job, but the federal pay freeze obviously affected my pay. Working for the government is great because you generally aren't affected too much by an economic downturn. But, you are more affected by the political environment and which agencies are receiving more funding in the federal budget.

9. ***What advice would you give young attorneys about seeking out a position with the government, either in a legal or non-legal position?***

There are a lot of benefits to working for the government and I would recommend it.