Fellowships are available to incoming first year Capital University Law School students interested in pursuing a career in adoption, child welfare, and/or juvenile law upon graduation.

**Adoption & Child Welfare Law Fellowship** – one available for incoming Fall 2009 students

Adoption and child welfare law encompass a wide range of complex and challenging aspects. Adoption law professionals deal with termination of parental rights, parental consent, wrongful adoption, race and cultural issues, sexual orientation issues, and international issues. Child welfare and adoption practitioners grapple with systemic issues impacting the 500,000 children in foster care in the United States, which includes about 114,000 children who have been freed for adoption and who are waiting for permanent, loving homes. Each year, approximately 20,000 children in foster care will age out of the system without ever being placed with a permanent family. Qualified, highly trained attorneys are needed to advocate for the children, families, and child- servicing agencies which come before the nation’s courts.

**Felicia Beth Nekritz Juvenile Law Fellowship** – one available for incoming Fall 2009 students

Many factors place juveniles at risk of involvement with our nation’s delinquency and child protection court systems, including child abuse and neglect, substance abuse and mental health needs, and educational issues. Significantly, youth who age out of the foster care system are more likely to become unemployed, homeless, and/or involved in the criminal justice system as adults. Felicia Beth Nekritz, L’96, was committed to helping juvenile offenders through her work at the Office of the Ohio Public Defender. The Felicia Beth Nekritz Juvenile Law Fellowship was established in her name to assist students who share her vision for improving the lives of juveniles through prevention and intervention, policy and systemic improvement efforts, as well as the provision of direct services for at-risk youth.

Application materials are available online at: www.law.capital.edu/ncalpfellowships/
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