Law Student Opportunities

Public Rights Division
Environment/Land Use and Conservation/
Natural Resources Los Angeles

The Los Angeles office of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General has volunteer internship opportunities for law students during both the school year and the summer. The Attorney General's Office has three sections that handle environmental work and offer an unparalleled variety of environmental experience. The three sections are as follows:

The Environment Section enforces a variety of state and federal environmental laws affecting California's natural resources, its communities, and public health, including those intended to achieve environmental justice. Environment Section attorneys investigate and litigate cases both on behalf of state agency clients and on behalf of the Attorney General acting in his independent capacity under the Government Code and the California Constitution.

The Land Use and Conservation Section represents California agencies in matters involving lands that the State owns or regulates for resource conservation, recreation and development. Its attorneys advise and defend state agencies that regulate development, including coastal development and offshore oil drilling; conservation of environmentally sensitive habitats; tideland preservation; oil and gas exploration (including fracking); high speed rail; and the administration of state parks.

The Natural Resources Law Section represents several California agencies responsible for protecting the state’s natural resources and controlling pollution. The Section’s attorneys enforce and defend those agencies’ environmental programs, including water quality, water rights, air quality, natural resource, endangered species, pesticide, forestry, and agricultural laws.

The positions involve rigorous legal research and writing projects, and the opportunity to observe many aspects of client representation and litigation, such as trials, depositions, motion hearings, settlement conferences, client meetings, and other proceedings.

How to Apply:

Applicants for internships must be law school students, and must have excellent analytical, research, writing, and communication skills. To apply, e-mail a cover letter, résumé, transcript, writing sample, and list of three professional references (or letters of recommendation) to:

**Land Use and Conservation Section**
Norma Franklin, Deputy AG
Elizabeth St. John, Deputy AG
norma.franklin@doj.ca.gov  
elizabeth.stjohn@doj.ca.gov

**Environment Section**
Kavita Lesser, Deputy AG
Catherine Wieman, Deputy AG
kavita.lesser@doj.ca.gov  
catherine.wieman@doj.ca.gov

**Natural Resources Law Section**
Gary Tavetian, Supervising Deputy AG
Carol Boyd, Deputy AG
gary.tavetian@doj.ca.gov  
carol.boyd@doj.ca.gov

Deadlines to Apply: The sections accept résumés and schedule interviews on an ongoing basis, according to the following application deadlines: Summer – no later than January 4; Spring – no later than October 31; Fall – no later than March 31.