Law Student Opportunities
Public Rights Division
Charitable Trusts Section
San Francisco

The Charitable Trusts Section of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has volunteer externship opportunities available for students in the San Francisco office.

The Charitable Trusts Section supervises and regulates charities, charitable trustees and professional fundraisers who solicit on their behalf. The purpose of this oversight is to protect charitable assets for their intended use and to ensure that charitable donations from Californians are not misused or squandered through fraud or other wrongdoing. The attorneys and auditors of the Section investigate and bring legal actions against charities and their directors and officers, charitable trustees, fundraising professionals and other entities that aid and abet in the commission of wrongful conduct. They also participate in probate and trust proceedings to protect charitable assets and defend charitable bequests.

Student externs will have the opportunity to assist attorneys in various projects and assignments, which may include: interviewing complainants and witnesses; reviewing and assessing evidence; legal research and preparing legal memoranda, pleadings, and motions on a broad range of legal issues; drafting discovery requests and responses; and drafting educational materials and presentations for the public. They may also attend depositions and court hearings.

Applicants for the Charitable Trusts Section externship opportunities must have excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. Extern hours are flexible and may be adjusted as appropriate. The Section will accept applications from second and third-year law students in good standing at accredited law schools, and law school graduates willing to volunteer their services.

How to Apply:

Students and law school graduates interested in applying should submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to:

Christopher Lamerdin
Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Charitable Trusts Section
455 Golden Gate Ave., Suite 11000
San Francisco, CA 94102
Email: Christopher.Lamerdin@doj.ca.gov