

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**



**POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

<b>ANNOUNCEMENT NO:</b> #004-2023	<b>POSITION TITLE:</b> Student Intern
<b>POSITION GRADE &amp; SERIES:</b> Legal Intern 0009	<b>SALARY RANGE:</b> N/A
<b>OPENING DATE:</b> November 10, 2023	<b>CLOSING DATE:</b> December 15, 2023
<b>DURATION OF APPOINTMENT:</b> Subject to duration of internship	<b>AREA OF CONSIDERATION:</b> Open to the Public
<b>WORKSITE LOCATION:</b> Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia Public Advocacy Division  400 Sixth Street, NW Washington, DC 20001	<b>NO. OF VACANCIES:</b> One (1)

**Job Summary**

The Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia (OAG) seeks highly qualified undergraduate and graduate students to work as legal interns during the academic year and summer vacation. OAG's internship program provides students with a challenging experience that reflects the demands and rewards of public service.

Internships are unique and tailored to each student's needs, interests, and schedule. We will talk with you to learn about your interests, skills, experience, preparation, and training. After receiving the completed application and supporting documents, the internship coordinator will contact you to arrange a suitable placement that is mutually beneficial.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**PUBLIC ADVOCACY DIVISION**

The Public Advocacy Division (PAD) promotes the rights of District residents through civil enforcement actions—with a particular emphasis on protecting vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. The Division is focused on civil rights, workers' rights, consumer protection, housing conditions, antitrust, non-profit

enforcement, environmental enforcement, and protecting elders and vulnerable adults from financial exploitation. The Division also works with advocacy partners and other jurisdictions to tackle federal and nationwide issues that affect the rights of those living or working in the District.

### **Civil Rights Section**

The Civil Rights Section engages with individuals, advocacy organizations, and community groups to investigate and litigate discriminatory policies and practices that harm District residents, including discrimination in housing, education, public accommodations, and employment. The Section also advocates for legislation to strengthen anti-discrimination laws and engages in community outreach to educate residents regarding their rights.

### **Elder Justice Section**

The Elder Justice Section protects District elders and vulnerable adults from financial exploitation. The Section investigates and pursues civil cases to stop financial exploitation, seeks restitution for victims, and obtains civil penalties against perpetrators, under the District's Abuse, Neglect, and Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults and the Elderly Act and other statutes. The Section also works with agency and nonprofit partners to address systemic issues affecting older District residents and conducts community outreach to raise awareness of financial exploitation and to increase reporting.

### **Social Justice Section**

The Social Justice Section litigates cases essential to preserving safe and habitable housing and enforces environmental laws that disproportionately impact low-income communities of color in the District. The Section holds landlords accountable when they fail to maintain rental units in accordance with the Housing Code and takes action to protect communities from drug, firearm, and prostitution-related nuisances by enforcing the District's Tenant Receivership Act and Nuisance Abatement Act. The Section's environmental attorneys represent the District in utility rate-setting cases before the Public Service Commission and investigate and litigate matters under the District's environmental laws that govern waste management, lead paint, engine idling, and water pollution control to ensure District residents have access to clean water and air and lead-free housing. The Section also drafts and supports legislation designed to protect tenants and the environment and regularly works with advocacy partners and the District's Department of Energy and the Environment to ensure the District timely and relevantly responds to matters of most importance to our communities. In addition, the environmental attorneys contribute regularly to multi-state environmental litigation and comment letters.

### **Office of Consumer Protection**

The Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) enforces the District's consumer protection laws and other public protection laws, including those related to debt collection and privacy. OCP investigates and litigates against businesses that are taking advantage of consumers to stop unlawful practices, obtain restitution and damages for consumers who have been harmed, and impose penalties to deter future unlawful conduct. OCP also mediates disputes between consumers and businesses. Finally, OCP drafts and supports legislation that protects consumers, and educates consumers through outreach events, an up-to-date online Consumer Resources library, and the distribution of consumer protection guides.

### **Antitrust and Nonprofit Enforcement Section**

The Antitrust and Nonprofit Enforcement Section enforces District and federal antitrust law and District statutes and common law relating to nonprofit corporations and charities.

## **Workers' Rights and Antifraud Section**

The Workers' Rights and Antifraud Section holds employers accountable for paying the wages they owe their employees. The Section protects workers' rights to minimum wage, overtime pay, and sick and safe leave. It also investigates and litigates against businesses that misclassify their employees as independent contractors to avoid the protections accorded workers by District law. The Section also seeks recovery from companies and individuals who defraud the District, resulting in the loss of public funds, including non-resident tuition fraud.

## **Qualifications and Education**

Incumbents must be currently enrolled in college or law school. General knowledge of the OAG, District and Federal rules of evidence, rules of criminal procedures, and rules of civil procedures, as well as the litigation process and court procedures to non-routine assignments, such as reviewing incoming documents and determining the need for the preparation of various legal documents. General knowledge of electronic and manual legal research techniques sufficient to compose legal documents and correspondence; search and analyze for legal relevance and summarize data; make conclusions; and recommend appropriate action. Knowledge of legal terminology. General knowledge of District of Columbia Government Executive Branch agencies, and their relationship to the courts and to the D.C. Council. Skill in legal writing to prepare a variety of documents, legal briefs, and summaries. Ability to analyze legal issues, factual issues, and subject matter details to determine the data needed, methods of obtaining data and the relevance of data already available. Ability to communicate effectively and prepare legal summaries of analyses.

## **Licenses and Certifications**

None

## **Work Conditions/Environment**

Work is normally performed in a typical inside environment.

## **Other Significant Factors**

**Tour of Duty:** Varies

**Duration of Appointment:** Subject to duration of internship

**Salary Range:** Unpaid Internship

*EEO Statement: The District of Columbia Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, physical handicap, or political affiliation.*

HOW TO APPLY: Under the subject heading PAD Internship Application, candidates should e-mail one PDF file which includes a cover letter, résumé, and writing sample to Keya Ross – [Keya.Ross@dc.gov](mailto:Keya.Ross@dc.gov) by 11:59 pm of the closing date indicated above.