Office of the Attorney General
Department of Justice

Position Announcement

SOLICITOR GENERAL

Sacramento or San Francisco
Approximate Salary: $12,000
(Subject to CalHR approval)

Application Deadline: July 15, 2013

About the Organization

Attorney General Kamala D. Harris is the state's chief law enforcement officer, responsible for ensuring that state laws are uniformly and adequately enforced. The department includes approximately 4,500 employees who provide legal and law enforcement services to the state, including representing the People of California in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts and the supreme courts of California and the United States, and law enforcement activities such as criminal investigations, apprehending criminals, and exchanging criminal intelligence using state-of-the-art technology. More information is available at www.oag.ca.gov.

The Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) has plenary authority and responsibility for ensuring the excellence of the Attorney General's appellate practice. The OSG provides appellate advice to all divisions within the Attorney General's Office and supports the improvement of appellate practice skills in all attorneys. The OSG serves as a clearinghouse for all appeals handled by the Attorney General's Office. The Office prepares or oversees the preparation of, petitions, briefs, and other papers filed in the appellate courts. The Office also argues appeals in federal and state courts.

About the Position

The Solicitor General is the chief appellate lawyer in the Department of Justice. The Solicitor General oversees all civil and criminal appeals to ensure conformity and quality as well as performs litigation of the most sensitive, complex cases throughout the appellate process, including cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, California Supreme Court, and California Courts of Appeal. In consultation with Division

Chiefs and the Chief Deputy Attorney General, the Solicitor General determines which cases will be appealed and what legal arguments will be advanced in matters handled by the Attorney General's Office. The Solicitor General is expected to argue appeals in the U.S. Supreme Court, but may assign any U.S. Supreme Court case to a deputy in the OSG or in the legal divisions. The Solicitor General has the discretion to argue any case before the California Supreme Court or any federal or state appellate court The Solicitor General is also responsible for developing and overseeing programs for appellate training in the legal divisions, appellate liaisons between the OSG and the legal division sections, and moot courts.

Minimum Qualifications

Membership in the California State Bar; experience as counsel in matters pending before the U.S. Supreme Court; experience arguing appeals in the U.S. Supreme Court or federal courts of appeal or the highest state appellate court; and at least 7 years of experience performing legal duties (i.e., practicing law).

Desirable Qualifications

Demonstrated experience arguing legal cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and/or California Supreme Court; substantial experience handling appellate matters in federal and state appellate courts; knowledge of the scope and character of California statutory law and provisions of the California Constitution, statutes, and constitutional provisions governing the organization, duties, powers, and conduct of the work of the Attorney General's Office and the Department of Justice; experience working on criminal and/or habeas cases; knowledge of principles of administrative and constitutional law, rules of evidence, and conduct of proceedings in trial and appellate courts in California and the United States and before administrative bodies; knowledge of the organizations, functions, and processes of the legislative branch; knowledge of the State's criminal justice system; knowledge of substantive and procedural law applicable to the Attorney General's Office and the Department of Justice; practical familiarity and experience with administrative, trial court, and appellate court practices and procedures; and demonstrated leadership ability, planning and supervisory skills, and ability to interact positively and effectively with client representatives, subordinates and other members of the Attorney General's Office at all levels.

Apply Now

To apply, please submit a state application form STD 678 and resume to
Nathan.Barankin@doj.ca.gov

or:

Office of the Attorney General
Department of Justice
1300 I Street, 17th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Nathan Barankin, Acting Chief Deputy Attorney General