



COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Special Assistant for Legal Affairs Opportunity in Chicago

The Cook County Bureau of Human Resources is seeking a Special Assistant for Legal Affairs to join our team.

Cook County offers great benefits and the chance to participate in a strong tradition of public service. Cook County is home to more than five million residents, roughly 45% of Illinois' population. Cook County Government provides a range of vital services and programs that enhance the quality of life for residents across the region. These services range from health care to urban planning. Cook County is committed to empowering its employees to bring our constituents the best that public service has to offer.

Acts as legal advisor and counsel to the bureau chief or director in all matters related to the statutory authority and execution of powers of that department, bureau or departments within bureau; also functions as direct legal aide to the director or bureau chief as required. Provides assistance in interpreting the legal ramifications of proposals, policy directives and other actions planned or undertaken by department, bureau or County Board. May serve in the capacity of Freedom of Information Officer or advise on matters related to the Freedom of Information Act. Works with the President's Counsel and State's Attorney's Office as necessary in order to evaluate litigation, respond to document requests, prepare for matters related to administrative review and address opinions related to federal, state or local legislation. Consults with the President's Counsel and the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney as required.

How do I apply?

Please submit a Cover letter and Resume to Shakmanexemptapplications@cookcountyil.gov.

When are Resumes due?

Until Filled.

SNAPSHOT OF COOK COUNTY:

- Cook County employs over 22,000 employees who work in a variety of skilled jobs and trades.
- Health Care – Cook County established the nation's first blood bank in 1937. Cook County Hospital was the first to have a dedicated unit for trauma services. Today our healthcare system treats more cancer patients than any other provider in the metropolitan area.

- Technology – Cook County’s Bureau of Technology provides technology support to Cook County offices and employees, with its wide area network providing service to more than 120 municipalities.
- Courts – Cook County oversees one of the nation’s largest unified criminal and civil justice system and administers the largest single jail site in the country.
- Highway – Cook County maintains almost 600 miles of roads and highways.
- Land – Cook County assesses the value of more than 1.5 million parcels of taxable land and collects and distributes tax funds as a service for local government taxing bodies.
- Safety – Cook County provides vital services to local government, from conducting elections in suburban areas to offering 911 services in unincorporated areas and municipalities.

Location:

Located in the Loop District of downtown Chicago, one of the most formidable business districts in the world, the area has an astounding number of cultural foundations, stunning parks such as Millennial Park and Maggie Daley Park, steps away from the Chicago Riverwalk, award-winning restaurants and plenty of shopping!

In addition, Chicago is serviced by multiple bus and train lines for public transportation from the suburbs to the city, taxis are plentiful, public parking garages for motorist, and bicycle share rentals and local bike lanes for bicyclist.

Benefits:

Cook County employees have access to a variety of benefits, including:

- Medical and Pharmacy Plans
- Dental Plans
- Vision Plan
- Flexible Spending Accounts – Health Care and Dependent Care
- Life Insurance – Group Term and Supplemental Life
- Commuter Benefits
- Pre-paid Legal Services
- Retirement Benefits
- Competitive Base Pay

Post Offer testing:

This position requires successful completion of post-offer tests, which may include a background check, drug screen and medical examination.

PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-1 AND COOK COUNTY’S MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY, THE SELECTED CANDIDATE WILL BE REQUIRED TO EITHER SUBMIT PROOF OF FULL VACCINATION OR A REQUEST FOR REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION PRIOR TO THE START OF EMPLOYMENT. PLEASE CLICK THE FOLLOWING HYPERLINKS FOR THE FULL TEXT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-1 AND THE COOK COUNTY MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY.

[EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-1](#)

Pursuant to the Shakman Consent Decree, Supplemental Relief Order and the Cook County Personnel Rules, this position is exempt from the County's career service rules, is at-will and political reasons or factors may be considered when taking any employment action. As an employee in a Shakman exempt position, if you do not currently live in Cook County, you will have six (6) months from date of hire to establish actual residency within Cook County.

COUNTY OF COOK



Bureau of Human Resources
118 N. Clark Street, Room 840
Chicago IL 60602

Job Code: 5531
Job Title: Special Assistant for Legal Affairs
Salary Grade: 24
Bureau: Human Resources
Department: Human Resources
Dept. Budget No. 1032
Position I.D. 0007339
Shakman Exempt

Characteristics of the Position

General Overview

Acts as legal advisor and counsel to the bureau chief or director in all matters related to the statutory authority and execution of powers of that department, bureau or departments within bureau; also functions as direct legal aide to the director or bureau chief as required. Provides assistance in interpreting the legal ramifications of proposals, policy directives and other actions planned or undertaken by department, bureau or County Board. May serve in the capacity of Freedom of Information Officer or advise on matters related to the Freedom of Information Act. Works with the President's Counsel and State's Attorneys Office as necessary in order to evaluate litigation, respond to document requests, prepare for matters related to administrative review and address opinions related to federal, state or local legislation. Consults with the President's Counsel and the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney as required.

Key Responsibilities and Duties

Provides legal advice to the director or bureau chief in a variety of matters pertaining to the department's functions, duties, powers and responsibilities set forth and defined by the County ordinance, state or federal law.

Helps formulate and define legitimate and appropriate positions to be taken by the director. Conducts legal research and advises as necessary.

Acts in tandem, where necessary, with legal advisors in the State's Attorney's Office and the President's Office to coordinate efforts with legislative or civil proceedings where necessary, including on legal issues regarding the interpretation and enforcement of County Ordinances and policies.

Reads, analyzes and answers correspondence pertaining to a variety of legal questions of immediate concern to the department.

May assist the other members of the staff in revising ordinances, legislative proposals, directives, correspondence, and/or policies for use in intergovernmental relations and public statements etc. Conducts legal research as needed.

Handles special projects of specific purposes and confidential nature as required.

Assist in matters related to the Employee Appeals Board.

Advises director in the drafting of department procedural rules and policies pertaining to the interpretation and enforcement of department applicable ordinances, as well as general Department policy and procedure.

Assists the director in drafting ordinances, agreements, contracts, policies, procedures and other relevant documentation.

May provide advice to the Public Information Officer on questions related to the Freedom of Information Act or serve as the Freedom of Information Officer.

Reports matters of legal relevance to the President's Counsel and accepts assignments from the director and President's Counsel as necessary.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Thorough and extensive knowledge of the law as it pertains to local and municipal government in Illinois, particularly with respect to Cook County government and the Chicago Metropolitan area including unincorporated areas of Cook County.

Skills in researching, interpreting and arguing law as it pertains to the responsibility and authority of the department; likewise, skilled in the legal analysis and interpretation of the rules, regulations, laws, ordinances and resolutions of the Cook County Board.

Transactional legal experience.

Ability to coordinate any of the above in connection with the State's Attorney and/or other designated counsel.

Minimum Qualifications

Graduation from an accredited School of Law with a Juris Doctorate degree.

Licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois.

Three (3) years or greater professional work experience as an attorney dealing with matters of civil law, government or corporate transactions.

Physical Requirements

Sedentary Work

Sedentary Work involves exerting up to 10 pounds of force occasionally or a negligible amount of force frequently to lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects. Sedentary work involves sitting most of the time but may involve walking or standing for brief periods of time.

The duties listed are not set forth for purposes of limiting the assignment of work. They are not to be construed as a complete list of the many duties normally to be performed under a job title or those to be performed temporarily outside an employee's normal line of work.