



Job Details: Legal Service

Job Title: **Supervisory Trial Attorney** (Utility Regulation)

Location: 655 15th Street, suite 200, Washington, DC

Remote: 3 days in, 2 days Telework

Pay Rate: \$151,503.00 - \$186,840.00

This position is **not** in a collective bargaining unit

How to Apply:

Send resume and cover letter to HR@OPC-DC.GOV

We are looking for candidates who are positive, motivated, enthusiastic, and flexible. We offer a travel stipend for public transportation and an attractive benefits package, including up to 8 weeks of paid family leave, plus free dental and vision benefits. We are an agency dedicated to professional development and encourage employees to participate in industry learning activities. We are family-friendly and promote a work-life balance. If this sounds like a place for you, come join our team.

The Office of the People's Counsel is an independent agency of the District of Columbia government. The Office of the People's Counsel is headed by the People's Counsel. By law, the People's Counsel is the advocate for consumers of natural gas, electric, and telephone services in the District. District of Columbia law designates the Office as a party to all utility-related proceedings before the Public Service Commission. The Office represents the interests of District ratepayers before federal regulatory agencies and establishes agency goals, objectives, policies, and legal strategies.

The position is located in the Litigation Services Division which is responsible for litigating cases involving utility companies before the Public Service Commission, federal regulatory agencies, and the DC Court of Appeals and reports to the Director of, Litigation Services Division. The incumbent serves as a Supervisory Trial Attorney (Public Utilities) and supervises a team of professional legal staff (attorneys and paralegals) who engage in a variety of legal activities on behalf of District utility ratepayers and are accountable for performing public utilities-related trial and appellate services in support of the mission and regulatory requirements of the Office of the People's Counsel.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provides technical guidance and assistance to staff with regard to the preparation and presentation of OPC's cases during a prosecution or administrative hearing, before an original jurisdiction or appellate court. The incumbent develops processes and procedures on how to prepare charges, show cause orders, complaints, briefs, motions, and other documents preparatory or incident to the trial of the case.

Develop procedures for staff participation in pretrial or prehearing conferences, guidance on how to examine and cross-examine witnesses, techniques, and pointers on how to argue motions before the court or hearing officer, and how to summarize OPC's case. Take steps to overcome any obstacles that impact or otherwise delay the successful completion of litigation work.

Obtains and allocates resources necessary to implement and execute litigation services. Makes litigation assignments and provides guidance to subordinate staff. Reviews, approves or disapproves actions involving personnel requirements and the allocation of resources among assigned cases. Conducts workload assessments and assigns cases to ensure effective workload distribution and full and proper use of legal staff. Analyze the use of resources in relation to requirements and identify and eliminate marginal activities. Conducts periodic reviews and staff presentations to compare progress with objectives and determines performance efficiency and economy. Initiates corrective action to resolve inadequacies revealed during reviews.

Assigns work and supervises the accomplishment of litigation staff work consistent with the established organizational structure. Develops and establishes efficient and economical position structure that will best serve mission needs by providing the optimum balance between such elements as economy, efficiency, skills utilization, employee motivation, and employee development.

Demonstrates consistent emphasis on EEO, affirmative action, and avoidance of discrimination with regard to race, sex, religion, national origin, color, age, and physical or mental handicap in employee selection, promotion, training, and other personnel management practices.

Attend hearings, community meetings, and top-level conferences with authority to commit the Director, Litigation Services Division, depending on the subject matter under consideration and prior understandings reached. Maintains contact with various stakeholders, District staff, and other agencies concerned with the OPC's advocacy services. Develops technical advice and assistance to OPC's stakeholders for committees, prepares special reports, reviews individual or specific cases, and attends other meetings or activities as required. Meets and confers with top officials at all levels of OPC, and other District government agencies, to obtain cooperation and support for program objectives and solutions to major problems under consideration.

Serves as the liaison with other OPC leaders and District of Columbia government agencies regarding litigation, original and appellate cases. The incumbent attends top-level conferences and hearings with the authority to commit the Director, Litigation Services Division, or other OPC leadership members, depending on the specific case under consideration and prior understandings reached. The incumbent coordinates with appropriate OPC supervisors and managers who are involved with developing or modifying information relevant to ongoing cases or assignments to ensure consistency across OPC regarding service delivery.

Interprets OPC operational policy guidance and develops operating procedures for subordinate litigation staff to ensure compliance with policy, guidance, and OPC requirements. Conducts or directs special investigations to analyze and evaluate program problems and develops a range of policy

alternatives for solutions to program problems. Provides authoritative program information that serves as the basis for the development and implementation of policies and overall program administration. Develops criteria and standards for measurement of effectiveness, quality of service, and end products, evaluations, and technical surveys. Coordinates and provides technical assistance in support of OPC's engagement of diverse energy, telecommunications, technical, and marketing monitoring functions.

Requirements:

- Must be a graduate of law school fully accredited by the American Bar Association.
- Must be an active member in good standing of the District of Columbia Bar or have the ability to waive in and be admitted within 360 days of appointment.
- A minimum of 10 years as a practicing attorney.
- In-depth knowledge of utility regulatory principles and policies, especially in the area of energy regulation.
- Demonstrated ability to interpret and disseminate complex technical information to both adjudicators, practitioners, and the public.
- Demonstrated skills in persuasive written communication and drafting legal litigation documents (e.g. pleadings, motions, regulatory comments, briefs).
- Demonstrated experience with an extensive range of litigation skills, including skills related to drafting and reviewing discovery; motions practice; drafting memos, briefs, and pleading; and participating in settlement discussions.
- Oral advocacy experience and comfort speaking in varied settings, ranging from working groups, and conferences, to hearings.
- Ability to communicate with all consumers and staff of government agencies, including the ability to listen and relate to differing viewpoints.
- Strong interpersonal and consensus-building skills, including the ability to work collaboratively and respectfully with colleagues, consumers, parties, and stakeholders from diverse backgrounds.
- Expertise in conducting detailed legal research and in analyzing the impact of legal issues/findings/rulings on consumers and an agency's policy positions.
- Demonstrated knowledge of District and Federal laws, regulations, guidelines, principles, practices, and techniques, especially with respect to utility regulation.
- Experience with clean energy, energy efficiency, climate regulation, and environmental justice initiatives is a plus.

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