Law Student Opportunities
Public Rights Division
Environment, Land Law & Natural Resources Sections
San Diego

The San Diego office of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has volunteer opportunities for law students, during the summer and throughout the academic year. The Attorney General’s Office has three sections that handle environmental work and San Diego volunteers may support projects for any of the three sections. As a result, we offer unparalleled opportunities for direct, substantive involvement with a variety of environmental issues.

The Environment Section enforces a variety of state and federal environmental laws affecting California’s natural resources, its communities and public health. Attorneys investigate and litigate cases both on behalf of state agency clients and on behalf of the Attorney General acting in his independent capacity under the Government Code and the California Constitution. Areas of focus include global warming; reducing toxics in consumer products; safe disposal of hazardous waste; and enforcement of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Land Law Section represents the State in land use litigation and in cases involving lands that the State owns and administers for resource conservation, recreation or development. Much of the work involves coastal protection issues. Its attorneys advise state agencies that implement programs concerning regulation of development, including offshore oil development; conservation of environmentally sensitive public lands; administration of public trust interests; administration of state parks and title to state-owned lands.

The Natural Resources Section represents the many California state agencies responsible for protecting the state’s natural resources and controlling pollution. The section’s attorneys enforce and defend the state’s environmental, water quality, water rights, air quality, natural resource, endangered species, water supply, pesticide, forestry, and agricultural laws.

Applicants should possess excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. The position offers the opportunity to observe many aspects of client representation and litigation, such as trials, depositions, motion hearings, settlement conferences, client meetings, and other proceedings.

How to Apply: Applicants for internships must be law school students. To apply, e-mail a cover letter, résumé, transcript, writing sample, and list of three professional references (or letters of recommendation) to:

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