

Law Student Opportunities

Public Rights Division

Police Practices Section

Primarily Remote, with Offices in Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Francisco



Are you interested in joining a newly-created team charged with enforcing constitutional policing practices on behalf of the Attorney General and the State of California? The Police Practices Section (PPS) of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has volunteer internship opportunities available for law students. The attorneys work primarily remotely but we can also accommodate interns in our Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Francisco offices. The Section invites interested and motivated candidates to apply.

The Attorney General has constitutional and statutory oversight authority relating to local law enforcement agencies in California. PPS handles a broad range of investigations, formal and informal reviews, and other actions related to local law enforcement agencies on behalf of the Attorney General. PPS works on general issues relating to policing, including use of force, officer-involved shootings, operations, management and supervision, such as hiring, promotion, discipline, and termination of sworn officers, and community engagement and civilian oversight of local law enforcement agencies. PPS conducts large-scale investigations and civil litigation, often on cutting edge, novel issues of law and fact; reviews officer-involved shootings involving the deaths of unarmed civilians; researches complex factual and legal issues on emerging constitutional rights and civil liberties issues relating to policing practices; engages with civil rights organizations, other advocates, and members of the public; provides advice on sensitive and high-profile matters to the Attorney General, other high level state officials and agencies, and other sections and divisions of the Department of Justice; reviews and analyzes proposed state legislation; and develops model policies, training, and best practices for state and local law enforcement agencies.

Student interns will have an opportunity to work on a wide range of PPS matters. Interns will assist Deputy Attorneys General and other staff by reviewing and assessing evidence in investigations and related projects and preparing written memorandum on a broad range of complex legal issues. Interns may also assist with witness interviews and may attend court hearings and client meetings.

Internships are 40 hours per week during the summer and should be at least 16 to 20 hours per week during the school year; these requirements may be adjusted on an individual basis.

How to Apply: Please submit a cover letter, resume, and a writing sample of no more than ten pages in a single combined PDF by email to the address below. Please indicate your preference for remote work, or your preferred office location(s) in the subject line of your cover letter.

State of California Department of Justice
Police Practices Section
PolicePracticesInterns@doj.ca.gov

- Applications for Fall 2024 will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by August 1, 2024.
- Applications for Spring 2025 will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by November 1, 2024.
- Applications for Summer 2025 will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by December 1, 2024.