

## **DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL I**

### **DEFINITION**

Under direction, to perform the less difficult professional legal work in the County Counsel's Office; and to do related work as required.

### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

This is the entry and first working level in the Deputy County Counsel class series. Incumbents are typically assigned the less difficult and less controversial civil matters. Incumbents may expect to qualify for the next higher level of Deputy County Counsel II when they are regularly assigned more difficult and complex legal work and have completed one (1) year as a Deputy County Counsel I.

### **REPORTS TO**

County Counsel.

### **CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED**

None.

## **DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL I - 2**

### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES**

- Confers with, and advises County Departments on routine legal questions.
- Drafts ordinances, contracts, leases, and resolutions, and other legal measures, submitting them to other Department legal staff for review and discussion.
- Develops recommendations concerning the advisability to prosecute, compromise, or dismiss civil litigation.
- Discusses cases with other legal staff.
- Performs legal research.
- May prosecute and defend legal actions against the County and its subdivisions before all courts and various administrative bodies.
- May investigate claims and potential lawsuits.
- May be delegated to serve as legal counsel and attend meetings of boards and commissions.
- Provides legal support for the Public Guardian Department.
- Dictates briefs and correspondence.

### **TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

### **TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS**

Work is performed in an office and courtroom environment; continuous contact with staff and the public.

## DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL I - 3

### **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- California and federal statutes and cases and their application to governmental jurisdictions.
- The principles of Civil, Constitutional, and Administrative Law.
- Legal research methods.

#### **Ability to:**

- Analyze facts and apply legal principles and precedents to specific local government problems.
- Develop legal issues and present clear and logical arguments and statements of fact and law.
- Draft and edit ordinances, contracts, and legal instruments.
- Effectively represent the County Counsel functions in contacts with the public, community organizations, and other government agencies.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.

**Training and Experience:** Any combination of training and experience which would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying.

Active membership in the State Bar of California.

**Special Requirements:** Must possess a valid driver's license at time of application and a valid California Drivers License by the time of appointment. The valid California License must be maintained throughout employment.