

State of Washington
 Attorney General's Office
 invites applications for the position of:

Assistant Attorney General - Corrections Division (Habeas Corpus & Sentencing Unit)

SALARY: Depends on Qualifications

OPENING DATE: 04/09/20

CLOSING DATE: 05/04/20 11:59 PM

DESCRIPTION:

Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application process or requiring information in an alternative format may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. Those with a hearing impairment in need of accommodation are encouraged to contact the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-676-3777 or www.washingtonrelay.com.



All employees and volunteers of the Washington State Attorney General's Office serve a crucial role in the protection of the state, its people and resources, thereby providing an incomparable degree of job satisfaction. The AGO is composed of diverse, collegial and supremely talented legal professionals who are resolute in their commitment to public service and share the common goal of advancing the public interest. For more information about the AGO, we encourage you to review the Office's Annual Report which can be found [HERE](#) and view [THIS VIDEO](#).

Olympia is a beautiful, thriving and affordable community. Living and working here offers unparalleled opportunities to pursue a rewarding career while living in a historically rich and vibrant area. It is ideally situated between the northwest's two largest cities (Seattle and Portland) and exploring either is but a short drive away. If exploring Washington State's natural features is your passion, you will appreciate that hiking, skiing and sailing opportunities are easily accessible. But you needn't stray from home for an adventure, as Olympia offers lush parks and trails, walkable neighborhoods, and exceptional dining, shopping and cultural experiences. Families and individuals will benefit from Olympia's excellent schools, from elementary through college.

DUTIES:

The Habeas Corpus & Sentencing Unit of the [Corrections Division](#) in Olympia has an opening for an attorney looking for a new challenge in the practice of law. Attorneys in this unit represent the State of Washington in all federal habeas corpus cases filed by offenders in the custody of the Washington Department of Corrections (DOC) who challenge their convictions or sentences pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Habeas unit attorneys also represent DOC in a significant number of state habeas corpus proceedings and personal restraint proceedings, and advise DOC on a variety of sentencing issues. Designated attorneys from the team advise the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board and represent the Board in personal restraint proceedings. Finally, the habeas unit advises the Governor's Office on extradition matters, reviewing several hundred extradition requests each year for legal sufficiency. The attorneys conduct similar reviews of interstate detainer requests under the Interstate Agreement on Detainers for the Secretary of the Department of Corrections.

This position is a professional growth opportunity for attorneys interested in honing their writing and oral advocacy skills and their knowledge of federal court jurisdiction, criminal procedure, and sentencing law. The attorney chosen for this position will prepare written pleadings in response to legal challenges filed by offenders--often appearing pro se--to their convictions and sentences such as personal restraint petitions, state habeas corpus petitions, and federal habeas corpus petitions. Corrections Division attorneys frequently handle appeals in the Ninth Circuit as well as the Washington Supreme Court and Washington Court of Appeals. The attorney chosen for this position may be assigned to brief and present oral argument in one of those courts. The attorney will also be assigned to the Division's post-sentence petition team, working closely with the stakeholders in criminal cases (the Department of Corrections, superior courts, prosecuting attorneys, and defense attorneys) to obtain amendments to erroneous judgments and sentences. That work frequently involves the drafting and filing of post-sentence petitions with the Court of Appeals under RCW 9.94A.585(7) in cases in which the Department has exhausted its efforts at the superior court level and the court has declined to amend the judgment.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Experience as a deputy prosecuting attorney and familiarity with Washington sentencing law is preferred. This position requires someone who thrives on hard work, works well on a team, pays attention to detail, and wants to expand his/her/their writing and appellate advocacy skills.

Applicants must have graduated from a law school accredited by the ABA or completed the WSBA's Rule 6 Law Clerk Program and be licensed to practice law in Washington state. The AGO seeks applicants who are committed to public service as demonstrated by an applicant's background, talents, attitude, and enthusiasm for public law practice. The AGO greatly encourages, celebrates and values diversity, appreciating that a workforce composed of those from different backgrounds and experiences creates an inclusive environment, strengthens positive relationships with the local community and brings new perspectives and approaches to fulfill its mission of providing excellent, independent and ethical legal services to the State of Washington and protect the rights of its people.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

The Assistant Attorney General position is represented by the Association of Assistant Attorneys General (AWAAG) / Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) AFSCME Council 28, AFL-CIO.

Starting salary for AAG positions for entry level positions start at sixty-three thousand dollars a year. Ultimately, AAG salaries are based on experience and qualifications, and are commensurate with comparable positions in the AGO. A competitive state benefits package is also offered which includes a choice of medical/dental insurance plans, retirement, life and basic long-term disability insurance. In addition, there are non-financial benefits that include working in a collaborative and supportive work environment where professional development and work-life balance are highly valued.

Interested applicants must apply by hitting the "apply" button above. In addition to the on-line application, one must upload, via the system, **preferably as PDFs:**

- A letter of interest;
- Resume;
- Law school transcript (unofficial copy is acceptable); and
- Writing sample.

If you have questions about this position and/or want to learn more about it before applying, please contact Division Chief Tim Lang at (360) 586-1445 or Tim.Lang@atg.wa.gov. The deadline to apply is May 4, 2020. **(If you have questions or concerns about the recruitment and interviewing process in light of the Governor's stay-at-home order, you are strongly encouraged to contact Attorney Recruitment Administrator, Linda Nakamura, at Linda.Nakamura@atg.wa.gov or (206) 464-6446.)**

Honoring diversity, equity and inclusion means that as an agency, and as individuals, we are committed to ensuring that all employees and volunteers enjoy a respectful, safe and supportive working environment. Only by fostering the inclusion of people from all backgrounds, cultures and attributes, can AGO employees and volunteers achieve their fullest potential and best advance the goals and mission of the AGO.

The AGO is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation/gender identity, age, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, retaliation or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Persons requiring reasonable accommodation in the application process or requiring information in an alternative format may contact Tracy Robinson at 360-586-7693. Those with a hearing impairment in need of accommodation are encouraged to contact the Washington Relay Service at 1-800-676-3777 or www.washingtonrelay.com.

**Assistant Attorney General - Corrections Division (Habeas Corpus & Sentencing Unit)
Supplemental Questionnaire**

- * 1. Have you ever worked or volunteered for the Washington State Attorney General's Office?
If yes, indicate dates and positions in which you served. If "NO", you will need to indicate "NO" or "N/A" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 2. List all activities or community involvement, past or present, that demonstrate a commitment to public service.
- * 3. Are you a current member of the Washington State Bar Association?
 Yes No
- 4. What is your Washington State Bar Association number?
- 5. If seeking admission to the WSBA via reciprocity or score transfer, what date do you anticipate being admitted to the WSBA?
- * 6. Have you ever been subject to discipline or censure by a Bar Association or other licensing organization? If "YES" provide a full explanation for each disciplinary action. If the answer is "NO" you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 7. Is there any Bar disciplinary proceeding pending against you? If "YES", provide a full explanation. If the answer is "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 8. Have you ever been held in contempt or sanctioned by any state or federal court or administrative agency? If "Yes", provide a full explanation for each action. If the answer is "No" you must indicate this by typing "No" in order to proceed with your application.
- * 9. Have you ever been fired, asked to resign, or resigned in lieu of termination, from any position? If "YES", you must provide a full explanation for each termination. If the answer is

"NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application.

- * 10. Have you participated, whether as an attorney, paralegal, legal assistant, or in any other capacity, in the representation of any party in a matter where the party's interest was materially adverse to that of the State, its agencies, or its officers or employees? If "YES", please identify all such matters, including the parties to the matter, the court and cause number of the matter, and your role in the matter. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.

- * 11. Have you participated as a judge, arbitrator, mediator, adjudicative officer, or as a law clerk to such a person, in a matter in which the State or any of its agencies, officers, or employees were a party? If YES, please identify all such matters, including the parties to the matter, the court and cause number of the matter, and your role in the matter. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.

- * 12. Is there any other matter, person, entity, or personal interest that might present a conflict of interest or otherwise limit your ability to perform work for the Attorney General's Office or represent a state agency, officer, or employee? If YES, please identify such matters, persons, entities, or personal interests with sufficient detail to allow the Attorney General's Office to understand the nature of the potential conflict of interest. You are not required to disclose any pending or contemplated complaint or dispute for which the law allows you to remain anonymous; however, you are responsible for not accepting assignments that would violate conflict of interest or confidentiality provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other laws with regard to such matters. If "NO", you must indicate this by typing "NO" in order to proceed with your application. If you require additional space, please attach additional sheets and indicate your attachment here.

- * 13. Please be advised that the AGO thoroughly checks references, including one's current employer. HOWEVER, it is very important to note that references are ONLY checked after at least one interview. Any concerns about checking references can be discussed during any interview. For the sake of efficiency, we ask that you proactively provide a release by responding affirmatively to the following statement. I authorize the Washington State Attorney General's Office (AGO) to contact any or all of my former or present employers, or organizations for which services have been provided, for the purposes of verification and reference. This may include information of a confidential nature, to include but is not limited to reviewing my personnel file, contacting any references, and/or contacting anyone else who might be familiar with my past job performance. I knowingly and voluntarily release the state of Washington, the AGO, its individual employees, and all my former or present employers, and their individual employees, from any and all known and unknown claims for damages or other relief arising out of the AGO's request for and receipt of employment information, unless my current or former employer is prohibited by state or federal law from disclosing the information that the AGO requests. PLEASE TYPE YOUR FULL NAME IN RESPONSE TO THIS SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO PROVIDE SUCH AUTHORIZATION.

- * 14. Have you uploaded all of the required material (i.e., letter of interest, resume, law school transcript and writing sample) with this application?
 Yes No

- * Required Question