

Job Posting

DEPARTMENT:	Office of Attorney General
SECTION:	Criminal Prosecutions Section/Criminal Law Division
CLASS:	Legal Assistant I/II
LOCATION:	Harrisburg
TYPE POSITION:	Permanent, Full-time, Non-civil service, Union
WORK HOURS:	8:30 – 5:00
SALARY RANGE:	LA I: Pay range 4-Minimum starting salary of \$33,663 LA II: Pay range 5-Minimum starting salary of \$37,986

BASIC FUNCTION:

This is legal work in assisting attorneys in the practice of law in a section that investigates and prosecutes a broad spectrum of crimes. Employees in this position perform the review, analysis, and processing of legal correspondence and documents.

This position entails a variety of legal clerical and staff support work related to the processing of the many legal documents required through all stages of a criminal case such as logging in new cases, organizing documentary evidence, and tracking statistics related to cases handled by the section. Additional duties include word processing and formatting of legal documents from written or dictated sources, drafting responses to routine inquiries from citizens and other governmental officials, maintaining legal files, preparing trial binders, and organizing exhibits. This work typically involves handling sensitive and confidential matters consistent with attorney-client privilege.

Legal clerical and staff support work is performed with considerable independence under the direction of a higher level supervisor or attorney who reviews the work for timeliness, accuracy, correct formatting, and adherence to procedural and other legal requirements.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

- Proofreads and corrects drafts for grammar, spelling, punctuation, format, syntax, and legal citation
- Schedules appointments; prepares and submits out-service training forms, general invoices for reimbursement, travel expense reports, and monthly mileage reports; makes travel arrangements for attorneys; and coordinates attendance at conferences, classes, and seminars
- Writes responses to routine inquiries for signature by the Section Chief or staff attorney
- Advises attorneys of important due dates
- Processes and files documents in accordance with internal policy
- Utilizes electronic databases or library resources to obtain copies of cases, statutes, and regulations for attorneys

- Shepardizes citations and utilizes research tools such as Westlaw
- Opens, logs, and distributes incoming mail
- Handles telephone calls from Commonwealth agency staff, law enforcement organizations, and the general public
- Maintains office files
- Maintains, catalogs, inventories, and stores case files
- Prepares the monthly reports for the prosecutors for submission to the Attorney General indicating the number of assigned cases, closed cases, arrests, pleas, sentencings, etc.
- Transcribes tape-recorded witness statements, prison calls, etc.
- Assists prosecutors in receiving, assimilating, inventorying, and filing documents and other investigative materials obtained during the course of various investigations
- Performs duties to assist prosecutors in pre-trial preparation which includes:
 - Composing and typing criminal informations
 - Compiling, preparing, and organizing all discoverable materials and composing discovery letters
 - Filing motions, briefs, and other legal documents with the appropriate courts
 - Preparing witness lists
 - Typing and assisting in the preparation of jury instructions
 - Preparing, organizing, marking, and copying exhibits and composing exhibit lists
 - Creating and organizing witness files which contain all witness statements and other documents associated with witnesses
 - Preparing Sentencing Guidelines

MINIMUM EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING:

Legal Assistant I:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university with a major in pre-law to include a minimum of three credit hours in legal research OR
- Associate's Degree as a paralegal from an accredited college or university OR
- Bachelor's or Associate's Degree from an accredited college or university and either a paralegal certificate from an accredited school or institution or one year of experience in paralegal work OR
- Four years of responsible work as a legal secretary and a paralegal certificate from an accredited school or institution OR
- One year of experience as a paralegal OR
- Any equivalent experience, training, and education

Legal Assistant II:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university with a major in pre-law to include a minimum of three credit hours in legal research and two years of experience as a paralegal OR
- An Associate's degree as a paralegal from an accredited college or university and two years of experience as a paralegal OR
- A paralegal certificate with two years of experience as a paralegal OR
- Three years of experience as a paralegal OR
- Six years of experience as a legal secretary and a paralegal certificate OR
- One year as a Legal Assistant I OR
- Any equivalent experience, training, and education