

State of California - Department of Social Services

DUTY STATEMENT

EMPLOYEE NAME:

CLASSIFICATION:

Legal Secretary

POSITION NUMBER:

800-310-1282-006

DIVISION/BRANCH/REGION: *(UNDERLINE ALL THAT APPLY)*

Legal Division/Enforcement Branch

BUREAU/SECTION/UNIT: *(UNDERLINE ALL THAT APPLY)*

Information Governance Bureau Sacramento

SUPERVISOR'S NAME:

Karen Walrath

SUPERVISOR'S CLASS:

Legal Support Supervisor I

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF POSITION *(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)*:

- Designated under Conflict of Interest Code.
- Duties require participation in the DMV Pull Notice Program.
- Requires repetitive movement of heavy objects.
- Performs other duties requiring high physical demand. *(Explain below)*
- None
- Other *(Explain below)*

Fingerprint Criminal Record Clearance required by the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This position requires the ability to lift up to 20 pounds.

I certify that this duty statement represents an accurate description of the essential functions of this position.

I have read this duty statement and agree that it represents the duties I am assigned.

SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

DATE

SUPERVISION EXERCISED *(Check one)*:

- None Supervisor Lead Person Team Leader

FOR SUPERVISORY POSITIONS ONLY: Indicate the number of positions by classification that this position DIRECTLY supervises.

Total number of positions for which this position is responsible:

FOR LEADPERSONS OR TEAM LEADERS ONLY: Indicate the number of positions by classification that this position LEADS.

MISSION OF ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:

The Legal Division's Clerical Support Section, under the Information Governance Bureau is dedicated to providing comprehensive and thorough administrative and legal support services to Enforcement Branch within the Legal Division.

CONCEPT OF POSITION:

Under the general supervision of a Legal Support Supervisor I, the Legal Secretary performs a large variety of the most complex legal secretarial duties for attorneys and/or professional staff, including senior level attorneys, within the Legal Division of the Department of Social Services. The incumbent must be familiar with the filing procedures of State, Federal, and appellate courts, be able to work independently, make responsible judgments regarding work flow, and effectively and efficiently carry out assigned tasks with minimal supervision and with a high degree of confidentiality and discretion.

A. RESPONSIBILITIES OF POSITION:

40% Files documents in multiple jurisdictions including State, Federal and appellate courts. Drafts, formats, proofreads, processes, files and serves a wide variety of legal documents, such as writs, affidavits, briefs, declarations, proofs of service, subpoenas, Temporary Suspension Orders, letters, and memos in these jurisdictions. The incumbent will be required to determine the appropriate pleading format and ensure that documents are prepared in accordance with legal requirements and deadlines and verifying legal citations. When a lawsuit is filed, the Legal Secretary prepares the Administrative Record for the Attorney General's Office, including identifying and assembling the exhibits that will be included, Bate stamping the documents and preparing an index, certification, and transmittal memo and serves the Record to the appropriate parties.

25% Using various computer software programs including, but not limited to, Microsoft Word and Outlook, processes correspondence, legislative bills and amendments, and other forms as requested. Interacts with courts, administrative agencies, governmental entities, co-counselors, opposing counselors, or witnesses in a professional and courteous manner. Prepares and maintains case file folders; maintains the calendar and schedule for senior level attorneys; composes letters and memoranda and finalizes all outgoing documents for accuracy and completeness in accordance with procedures established in the Legal Division's Secretaries Manual; identifies documents requiring immediate attention; maintains tickler files related to hearing and filing dates to ensure timely preparation of legal forms to meet deadlines.

20% Assists with hearing preparation. Prepares discovery materials for trial, ensuring the appropriate regulations and required documents are included. Prepares trial binders of jurisdictional documents and amended documents when needed; prepares and maintains exhibit lists, privilege logs, and jurisdictional logs; completes subpoenas and serves to witnesses. The incumbent coordinates with the staff attorneys and the Attorney General's office on routine pending litigation and administrative hearings. The Legal Secretary organizes hearing documents and exhibits; prepares administrative records for the Attorney General's Office, which includes identifying and assembling exhibits, bate stamping legal documents, preparation of index, certificate and transmittal memo in order to serve the record to the appropriate parties.

10% Prepares travel-related forms and expense claims; requests checks from Accounting for witness fees and mileage; prepares revolving fund requests for travel and miscellaneous case-related costs; maintains travel records for assigned attorneys. Makes travel arrangements; arranges attorney/client meetings, coordinates hearing and deposition dates with opposing counsel and witnesses. Makes, receives, screens, and answers telephone calls and takes messages from callers.

5% Performs other related duties as appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to, serving as back-up to other support staff, including the Deputy Director's Executive Assistant, and may monitor staff workload in the absence of the Legal Support Supervisor I.

B. SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

The Legal Secretary is under the direct supervision of a Legal Support Supervisor I and under the general direction of a Legal Support Supervisor II.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY:

None.

D. PERSONAL CONTACTS:

The incumbent is expected to maintain open communication with attorneys, supervisor, secretarial, and support staff. Communicates effectively with all levels of staff within the Department and other governmental agencies. Performs work in a safe and efficient manner.

E. ACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES:

The Legal Secretary deals with sensitive issues regarding various programs administered by the Department. Failure to provide efficient support services may impact the Legal Division's ability to accomplish its mission and serve clients effectively.

F. OTHER INFORMATION:

Position is located in a high rise state building, and office space is standard in a smoke-free environment. Employees assigned to the Legal Division are subject to a criminal record background check clearance by the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The incumbent must be able to work in a team environment, have strong communication skills, work well under pressure, and meet short deadlines. The Legal Secretary may be required to sit for extended periods of time to operate computer terminals and transcribe from Dictaphones and may be required to stand for long periods of time to photocopy and assemble documents. This position requires the ability to lift up to 20 pounds.

(Rev. 10/2023 - TT/TW)