



Classification: Attorney V
Position Number: 880-220-5781-002

DUTY STATEMENT

☐ CURRENT ☒ PROPOSED

RPA Number: 26-220-003	Classification Title: Attorney V	Position Number: 880-220-5781-002
Incumbent Name: Vacant	Working Title: Attorney V, Water Quality	Effective Date: TBD
Tenure: Permanent	Time Base: Full-Time	CBID: R02
Division/Office: Office of Chief Counsel		Section/Unit: State Board Water Quality and Administration Branch
Supervisor's Name: Philip G. Wyels		Supervisor's Classification: Attorney, Assistant Chief Counsel

Human Resources Use Only:

HR Analyst Approval: *Rebecca Fisher-Luna*

Date: 08/25/2026

General Statement

Under the general direction of the Attorney, Assistant Chief Counsel and consistent with good customer service practices and the goals of the State and Regional Board's Strategic Plan, the incumbent is expected to be courteous and provide timely responses to internal/external customers, follow through on commitments, and to solicit and consider internal/external customer input when completing work assignments.

Position Description

Attorney Vs are the most experienced, skilled, and qualified attorneys in the Office of Chief Counsel and the top experts in a complex and difficult legal field at the State Water Resources Control Board. Working independently, incumbents at this level are involved in the most difficult and most complex litigation and agency decision-making, which includes innovative theories, practices of law, specialization in law/regulation and the highest levels of expertise. This position will require travel to board meetings and workshops and other proceedings to represent the Board.

Essential Functions (Including percentage of time):

25%	Serve as lead project attorney in the most complex and difficult water quality planning, permitting, and enforcement proceedings and administrative litigation requiring strategic decision-making, reliance on innovative legal theories, and specialization. These proceedings require consideration of interrelationships among water quality, water supply, and planning/permitting issues and which have a high degree of probability of court appeal (considered sensitive). These include the development of state or basin wide water quality control plans and state policies for water quality control that affect all of California's water resources and involve the innovative use of state and federal powers. These proceedings require consideration of interrelationships among state and federal constitutional, statutory, and common law, and require resolution of innovative legal theories advanced by participants. Utilize broad discretion and independence while applying the highest level of expertise in water quality law, administrative procedures (including highly specialized, complex administrative litigation), and preparation of decisions of a possible precedent-setting nature.
25%	Serve as point of contact and expert in an area of specialization, including working with specialized inside counsel for the State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards, Deputies Attorney General, and high-level inside counsel at other state and federal agencies, and leading subject matter teams. Develop and coordinate the legal advice within that area of specialization relying upon the integration of complex water quality theories, including novel and innovative theories, while considering the legal claims and arguments of diverse stakeholders, including those of state, federal, and other public agencies.
15%	Provide legal counsel directly to Board members, Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, Deputy Director of the Division of Water Quality, and Regional Water Board Executive Officers and Assistant Executive Officers, on the most complex, general water quality issues and in the areas identified above.
15%	Provide legal services and liaison to the Attorney General's Office in the most difficult, complex, and controversial water quality litigation, including defending regulatory actions to protect surface and ground water resource, wetlands, and coastal resources. Prepare or review pleadings, briefs, and declarations, and participate in court hearings in state and federal court. Participate in formulating Board policy and litigation strategy in these and other cases. Represent the Board before the Superior Court in cases in which the Attorney General has a conflict of interest.
10%	Develop and maintain expertise in water quality, general environmental, administrative, and other laws that apply to Water Board practice through self-education, training attendance, and interaction with other attorneys in the Office of Chief Counsel. Provide training to Water Board members, staff, and other attorneys. Assist other attorneys with legal research and analysis, as well as both formal (e.g., assigned) and informal (e.g., spontaneous) collaboration. May serve as team leader for a team of Water Board attorneys, under the general direction of an Attorney, Assistant Chief Counsel.



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Marginal Functions (Including percentage of time):

5%	Travel to board meetings and workshops and other proceedings to represent the Board.
5%	Perform other duties as required.

Typical Physical Conditions/Demands:

The job requires extensive use of a personal computer and the ability to sit/stand for long periods of time, type on a keyboard, and participate in virtual meetings, for extended periods of time. The job also requires the ability to participate in in-person meetings, public meetings, and court proceedings.

Typical Working Conditions:

The attorney works in a fast-paced professional environment. The typical work schedule is Monday through Friday, currently with three or four days per week in the office. Occasional evening and weekend work may be necessary to meet litigation or other deadlines, and evening work may be necessary for participating in public hearings. Travel is required within the State to attend board meetings, court hearings, and other types of in-person meetings. Travel may last more than one day and require overnight stays.

Supervisor Statement

I certify this duty statement represents an accurate description of the essential functions of this position. I have discussed the duties of this position with the employee and provided the employee a copy of this duty statement.

Supervisor Name	Supervisor Signature	Date
Employee Name	Employee Signature	Date