



Attorney General William Tong serves as Connecticut's chief legal officer for civil matters, and the **Office of the Attorney General (OAG)** serves as legal counsel to all state agencies. The Connecticut Constitution, statutes and common law authorize the Attorney General to advance the public interest on behalf of the people of our state.

Criminal enforcement in Connecticut is the responsibility of another state agency -- the Office of the Chief State's Attorney.

The OAG is organized into 15 departments: *Antitrust and Government Program Fraud, Child Protection, Civil Rights/Torts, Collections/Child Support, Consumer Protection, Employment Rights, Energy, Environment, Finance, Health & Education, Privacy & Data Security, Public Safety, Special Litigation, Transportation and Workers' Compensation/Labor Relations.*

Each department has specific responsibilities and the work experiences available and the level of student considered for placement (law, paralegal undergraduate, high school) vary by department. All departments are based at 165 Capitol Avenue in Hartford, unless otherwise noted.

Please read the following summaries before making your placement selections on the internship application to make sure your choices reflect your interests and qualifications.

Antitrust & Government Program Fraud

The *Antitrust and Government Program Fraud* Department has four distinct units:

The Antitrust Section enforces the Connecticut Antitrust Act and has authority to enforce major provisions of the federal antitrust laws. The department also relies on other federal and state laws to ensure the Attorney General's overall responsibility to maintain open and competitive markets in Connecticut. Using these statutes, we investigate and prosecute antitrust and

other competition-related actions on behalf of consumers, businesses and governmental units.

The Government Program Fraud Section enforces the Connecticut False Claims Act and conducts investigations of fraud perpetrated against Connecticut's health and human services programs (e.g., the Medicaid program).

The Whistleblower Section reviews and investigates allegations by whistleblowers of improper conduct by state employees, state agencies, quasi-state agencies and large state contractors.

The Health Care Advocacy Section provides advisory assistance to consumers who have health-care related problems particularly those that involve health insurance and managed care-coverage denials.

Interns have opportunities to attend administrative hearings, court proceedings, witness depositions/interviews, and to be directly involved in helping Connecticut citizens with their health-care insurance problems. Many of this department's significant investigations and cases brought over the last several years were accomplished, in no small measure, to the great work of past interns.

Who should apply: The department seeks interns who are self-starters, preferably second-year, or third-year law students, with some antitrust or health care background (although not a requirement) to assist staff with the tasks necessary to investigate and litigate potential violations of the antitrust, unfair trade practice, or false claims laws. We are very flexible about schedules, understanding that our law students' studies are their first priority.

Child Protection

The *Child Protection* Department is dedicated to protecting the children of the State of Connecticut from abuse and neglect and to safeguard their welfare. The department represents the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in thousands of juvenile court civil cases in the interest of children who have been abused and neglected, striving to secure their placement in temporary, long-term or permanent, safe and nurturing homes. OAG attorneys represent DCF in proceedings and trials that may remove a child or children from the parent/parents on a temporary basis, on a long-term basis (commitment to the

Commissioner of DCF) or on a permanent basis (termination of parental rights); other cases involve the continued placement of a child in the care and custody of the DCF against the desires of a parent/parents. This department also defends child protection appeals before the Connecticut Appellate and Supreme Courts. Because child protection cases are expedited, it is quite possible that an intern can assist and follow a case from preparation through trial, and sometimes to the decision delivered by the court.

Interns have opportunities to participate in all phases of litigation with the exception of depositions, which are infrequent. Students may be asked to review documents; summarize records of the client agency or community service providers; assist in identifying and securing the appearance of witnesses at trial through subpoenas to be served to potential witnesses; review DCF permanency plans before they are filed with the court, and conduct legal research for appeals. Legal interns who are certified pursuant to Connecticut Practice Book §3-18, may appear in court and handle a case under the supervision of an attorney. *The department is based at 110 Sherman Street in Hartford with offices in New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury and several other cities.*

Who should apply: Law students who are interested in litigation and appellate practice and who have demonstrated proficiency in legal writing and research. Some background in civil proceedings and evidence is preferred, but not required. Priority will be given to more experienced students. We will also accept applications from undergraduate and paralegal students if work is available.

Civil Rights/Torts

The *Civil Rights/Torts* Department is one of the specialized litigation departments in the OAG. Attorneys in our department defend state agencies, officials and employees in personal injury actions and tort-like civil rights actions in state and federal courts, and the Office of the Claims Commissioner. Our cases run the gamut from high-exposure permanent injury and wrongful death actions to claims alleging injuries from falls on state property. Most of our time is spent preparing for trial: investigating complaints, interviewing witnesses, engaging in written discovery and requests for production, conducting electronic forensic

investigations (when necessary), taking depositions, reviewing records, and researching and writing briefs. We expect our interns to be willing to assist in all of these tasks.

Interns have opportunities to attend depositions, settlement conferences, witness interviews, oral arguments and hearings. Depending on scheduling, they may also have an opportunity to attend a trial, a state Appellate or Supreme Court argument, or mediation. Interns whose terms are longer and who demonstrate the requisite levels of responsibility and skill may be asked to draft motions and briefs, help interview potential witnesses, aid in investigations, summarize deposition transcripts, and organize records in preparation for trial.

Who should apply: Although we have accepted undergraduate and paralegal students, we prefer law students who have completed at least one year and who have demonstrated proficiency in legal writing and research.

Collections/Child Support

The *Collections/Child Support* Department is dedicated to the expeditious recovery of monies due the State and the establishment of orders for the support of children. Collectively, our department represents the departments of Administrative Services, Revenue Services, Labor and Social Services. Our Child Support attorneys are in court most days, and students working with our Child Support staff have insight into issues such as contested family cases involving paternity and child support, support modifications, custody, dissolutions and termination of parental rights. Likewise, our Collections attorneys have very diverse caseloads and are involved in bankruptcies, foreclosures, John Dempsey Hospital collections, Special Needs Trusts and recovery of public assistance benefits and costs of incarceration. They appear in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Superior Court, and Probate Court.

Interns have opportunities to attend and observe negotiations, and hearings in federal and state courts. Work assignments depend on the training of the student and may include: legal research; preparation of pleadings and motions from templates; reviewing documents in foreclosure cases to determine if equity exists; preparing memos to agencies; contacting courts for information;

organizing files; working with our legal Investigator to review files and perform asset searches; and assisting our support staff with filing and data entry.

Who should apply: We welcome law students, paralegals, undergraduate and high school students who are looking for rewarding work and assisting in the challenging courtroom environment surrounding child support for the children of our state.

Consumer Protection/Consumer Assistance Unit

The *Consumer Protection* Department investigates allegations of unfair and deceptive practices perpetrated against Connecticut consumers, and takes legal action where necessary to halt such practices under the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA). The Department also has an active mediation unit, the Consumer Assistance Unit (CAU) that seeks to informally mediate disputes between consumers and businesses. *The department is located at 110 Sherman Street, Hartford.*

Interns have opportunities to participate in a variety of experiences, such as assisting in the resolution of consumer complaints, legal research and assisting attorneys in the preparation of court pleadings and administrative and court proceedings. Student interns may be invited to tour court facilities and attend court hearings as appropriate during their internship.

Who should apply: The Consumer Protection Department seeks law students. CAU accepts undergraduate and highly motivated high school students.

Employment Rights

The *Employment Rights* Department represents state agencies and state officials in lawsuits brought in state and federal courts by state employees. We also defend state agencies in administrative proceedings before the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) and whistleblower retaliation cases brought in the Office of Public Hearings.

Many of our cases involve claims of discrimination brought under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act or the Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act. Others involve claimed violations of various state or federal constitutional provisions, including the First Amendment or the due process or equal protection

clauses. We handle administrative appeals from the CHRO, and appeals to state and federal appellate courts.

Interns have opportunities to participate in all aspects of the litigation process, including drafting of discovery requests, assisting with preparation for depositions and attending settlement conferences and trials. In addition, because our cases usually involve extensive motion practice, interns are given one or more research and writing assignments to work on during the internship.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged and priority will be given to more experienced students. This department can accommodate several law student interns.

Energy

The *Energy* Department represents both the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) and the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) in cases that often affect every household in the State. For the Siting Council, the Department defends the Council's decisions regarding the siting of facilities, including wind turbines, cell towers, transmission lines and power plants. For PURA, the Department defends administrative appeals from PURA decisions including issues regarding electric, gas, and water rates, transfer of assets, acquisition of control, telecommunications, safety, service and consumer billing. The Department also represents PURA in numerous administrative proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and resultant appeals to the U.S. Courts of Appeals. The majority of the Department's work involves appeals from agency decisions, both in state and federal courts. *The office is based at 10 Franklin Square in New Britain.*

Interns have opportunities to research and write motions and briefs, participate in client meetings, attend pretrial conferences and hearings, and observe oral arguments before the state and federal courts. The vast majority of interns complete their internship with at least one solid writing sample.

Who should apply: We welcome law students with at least one year's schooling, and will give priority to law students with a demonstrated interest in administrative law, energy issues and/or public utility law.

Environment

The *Environment* Department represents the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture in court and administrative proceedings. Department attorneys file lawsuits to enforce the state's environmental laws, including water, hazardous waste, solid waste, wetland and numerous other environmental statutes and regulations. In addition to state court actions, the department frequently coordinates with other state Attorneys General to file suit in federal court to enforce federal laws and to defend against rolling back federal environmental protections. As the Department of Agriculture's legal representative, we frequently file court actions to seize neglected and cruelly treated animals, in addition to providing other legal services.

Interns have opportunities to prepare for and participate in trials where attorneys represent the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in its efforts to enforce the environmental laws, remediate pollution and impose civil penalties on violators of the law. An internship in this department provides a unique opportunity to partake in all phases of litigation from research and writing to document review and trial preparation.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged and priority will be given to more experienced students.

Finance

The *Finance* Department provides legal services to state agencies that regulate and enforce state laws regarding insurance, banking, and securities. The Finance Department also represents the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Revenue Services, and the Office of Policy and Management.

Interns have opportunities to work closely with attorneys to advise client agencies on legal issues within their jurisdiction, pursue civil enforcement actions, and defend agencies in court and in administrative proceedings. Interns

frequently have the opportunity to attend court hearings and court arguments, to conduct research and draft legal memoranda.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged and priority will be given to more experienced students and those with a background in finance and insurance.

Health & Education

The *Health and Education* Department provides legal services and representation to a broad spectrum of state agencies, such as the University of Connecticut, the Connecticut State University System, the Connecticut Community College System, the State Department of Education and all other state agencies that have an educational function. This department also represents the Department of Public Health, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Office of Health Care Access, the Psychiatric Security Review Board, the Department of Developmental Services, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Commission on Medical and Legal Investigations overseeing the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the various health licensing boards and commissions. The Health and Education Department workload addresses the entire spectrum of litigation in federal and state courts for these clients, including, but not limited to, class-action lawsuits, administrative appeals, regulatory enforcement actions, non-employee discrimination claims, civil rights actions, probate proceedings, bankruptcy and receivership actions.

Interns have opportunities to attend depositions, administrative and trial court hearings; to participate in meetings; to prepare witnesses and to plan litigation strategy. Assignments may include: preparation of pleadings, briefs, discovery, and research memos.

An internship at the Health and Education satellite office at the *University of Connecticut Health Center, 263 Farmington Avenue, Farmington*, provides exposure to a wide variety of hospital and health law issues that arise at the center, such as HIPAA, human resources, human subject research, scientific misconduct, medical treatment, medical and dental student and residency

programs, psychiatric commitment proceedings, patient rights and property acquisitions and development.

Who should apply: Law students who have completed two years of legal education. Please specify in your application if you are interested in working at the Health Center. Priority for that placement is given to University of Connecticut School of Law students.

Privacy and Data Security

The *Privacy and Data Security* Department handles matters related to the protection of Connecticut residents' personal information and data. The Department enforces state laws governing notification of data breaches, safeguarding of personal information, and protection of Social Security numbers and other sensitive personal information. The department is also responsible for enforcement of federal laws under which the Attorney General has enforcement authority, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), and the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). In addition, this department provides the Attorney General with advice and counsel on proposed legislation and other matters regarding privacy and data security, and it engages in extensive outreach to citizens and businesses on matters relating to data protection and privacy.

Interns have opportunities: to work closely with attorneys to advise the Attorney General and client agencies on legal issues involving privacy and data security. Also, interns will have opportunities to participate in all aspects of a privacy or data security investigation, often in coordination with other state Attorneys General. This may include attending witness and expert interviews, settlement conferences, and reviewing forensic investigative reports and discovery.

Who should apply: Although we have accepted undergraduate and paralegal students, we prefer law students who have completed at least one year and who have demonstrated proficiency in legal writing and research. An information technology or computer background is a plus, but not required.

Public Safety

The *Public Safety* department represents the Department of Public Safety, including the Division of State Police, the Division of Fire, Emergency and Building Services; the Military Department; the Department of Correction; the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and the Department of Consumer Protection Liquor Control Division. It also provides legal services and representation to a number of associated boards, commissions and agencies, such as the Division of Criminal Justice, the Division of Public Defender Services, the Office of Adult Probation, and the Governor's Office (Interstate Extradition), among others. *This is a litigation-intensive unit and based at 110 Sherman Street, Hartford.*

Interns have opportunities to go to court, mediation sessions, depositions and client preparation meetings. Legal interns draft motions and memoranda of law, which provide an opportunity to develop writing samples for future use.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged and priority will be given to more experienced students. We will also consider applications from undergraduate and paralegal students.

Special Litigation

The *Special Litigation* department represents the Governor, the Judicial Branch, the General Assembly, the Secretary of the State, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, the State Elections Enforcement Commission, and a variety of other small executive branch agencies. The Department also handles a range of appellate and constitutional litigation in state and federal courts involving the State. In addition, through its Public Charities Unit, the Department protects the public interest in charitable gifts and in cooperation with the Department of Consumer Protection, administers and enforces state laws regulating charities and professional fundraisers who solicit from the public.

Interns have opportunities to provide legal research, draft briefs and pleadings in trial and appellate court cases, and assist in public charity investigation and enforcement actions.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged and priority will be given to more experienced students.

Transportation

The *Transportation* Department provides legal representation to various state departments, boards and commissions. They include: the Department of Transportation (DOT); Department of Public Works (DPW); Department of Administrative Services (DAS); Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV); Department of Information Technology (DOIT); Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), Housing (DOH); the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) on real property matters; and the Connecticut Historical Commission. In addition, department attorneys provide legal assistance to various occupational licensing boards within the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). The work involves both counseling on legal issues and prosecuting and defending lawsuits or claims in federal and Connecticut courts and before various administrative entities, including the Office of the Claims Commissioner.

Interns have opportunities to assist with the department's cases and appeals of administrative decisions in driving-under-the-influence and condemnation cases; to research and write memos; and to attend hearings before the Claims Commissioner and various state courts. Occasionally, interns are permitted to present a case to the Claims Commissioner. An internship in this department provides a unique opportunity to be involved in all phases of litigation from preparation through trial.

Who should apply: Law students are encouraged, but we will also accept applications from paralegal students. Priority will be given to more experienced students, preferably second-year or third-year law students who are self-starters, have demonstrated proficiency in legal writing and research, and have taken administrative law and civil procedure (although not a requirement). We can accommodate several interns and are willing to be flexible about scheduling, particularly during the school year.

Workers' Compensation & Labor Relations

The *Workers' Compensation and Labor Relations* Department represents the Workers' Compensation Commission, the Department of Administrative Services in its capacity as the manager of the state employee workers' compensation program; the State Treasurer in her capacity as custodian of the Second Injury Fund; the Labor Department; the Office of Labor Relations; the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration; the Office of the Claims Commissioner; Office of the State Comptroller; the State Employees Retirement Division; the Teacher's Retirement Board and numerous other state boards and commissions.

The Labor Relations Unit represents the Labor Department in unemployment compensation appeals to the Superior Court as well as appeals to state Appellate and Supreme courts. The Labor Unit also represents the Department of Labor's Wage and Workplace Standards Division, collecting unpaid wages due Connecticut employees; the Office of Program Policy, Connecticut OSHA appeals from administrative decisions of the Department Of Labor; and the collecting and enforcing of civil penalties for statutory labor violations.

Interns have opportunities to review and organize files for pre-formal and formal hearings; research the law and draft pleadings and legal memoranda; assist attorneys and paralegals at hearings; gather information from client agencies to comply with discovery requests; and investigate and respond to public inquiries. Interns may attend meetings with client agency personnel, pre-trial hearings before compensation commissioners and Superior Court judges and observe oral arguments before the Compensation Review Board and the Appellate and Supreme courts.

Who should apply: Law students who have completed at least one year of law school are encouraged and priority will be given to those who have demonstrated proficiency in legal research and writing. We also consider applications from undergraduates and frequently have work for paralegal students.

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