Law Student Opportunities

California Department of Justice Police Practices Section

Primarily Remote, with Offices in Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Francisco



The Police Practices Section (PPS) of the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has volunteer internship opportunities available for law students. The attorneys work primarily remotely but we can also accommodate interns in our Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Francisco offices. The Section invites interested and motivated candidates to apply.

The Attorney General has constitutional and statutory oversight authority relating to local law enforcement agencies in California. PPS handles a broad range of investigations, formal and informal reviews, and other actions related to local law enforcement agencies on behalf of the Attorney General. PPS works on general issues relating to policing, including use of force, officerinvolved shootings, operations, management and supervision, such as hiring, promotion, discipline, community engagement, and civilian oversight of local law enforcement agencies. PPS conducts large-scale investigations of law enforcement agencies, often on cutting edge, novel issues of law and fact; reviews officer-involved shootings involving the deaths of unarmed civilians and recommends policy revisions in an effort to reduce officer-involved shootings; researches complex factual and legal issues on emerging constitutional rights issues relating to policing practices; engages with civil rights organizations, advocates, and members of the public; provides advice on sensitive and high-profile matters to the Attorney General, other high level state officials, and agencies, and other sections and divisions of the Department of Justice; reviews and analyzes proposed state legislation with a lens toward constitutional policing; reviews Hate Crimes and other law enforcement policies of local and state agencies; and develops model policies, training, and best practices for state and local law enforcement agencies to follow.

Student interns will have an opportunity to work on a wide range of PPS matters. Interns will assist Deputy Attorneys General and other staff by reviewing and assessing evidence in investigations and related projects, attending team meetings, and preparing written memoranda or analyses on a broad range of complex legal issues. Interns may also assist with witness interviews and file review.

Internships are 10 weeks long and 40 hours per week during the summer and 16 to 20 hours per week during the school year; these requirements may be adjusted on an individual basis.

How to Apply: Please submit a cover letter, resume, 3 references, and a writing sample of no more than ten pages in a single combined PDF by email to: PolicePracticesInterns@doj.ca.gov. Please identify whether you are applying for a Summer, Fall, or Spring Internship in the subject line of the email with your application, and indicate your preference for remote work, or your preferred office location(s) in the subject line of your cover letter.

- Applications for Fall will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by August 1.
- Applications for Spring will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by November 1.
- Applications for Summer will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to applications received by December 1.