



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

Michael A. Cardozo, *Corporation Counsel*

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

LAW DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES PLANS TO LAUNCH FIRST-EVER CORPORATION COUNSEL CLERKSHIP

NEW CLERKSHIP TO OFFER LEGAL TRAINING AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF CITY GOVERNMENT FOR SELECTED TOP LAW SCHOOL GRADUATES

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New York, Nov. 21, 2011 – New York City Corporation Counsel Michael A. Cardozo today announced plans to initiate a one-year clerkship, funded by private donations, to be made available to recent law school graduates to work in the Corporation Counsel's Office. The Corporation Counsel Clerkship at the New York City Law Department – modeled on a traditional judicial clerkship – will allow high-caliber junior attorneys to pursue an interest in legal issues relating to local government.

The clerkship is the first of its kind for New York City, and will be extended annually as private funding permits.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for some of the brightest legal minds to gain unparalleled public service experience and access early in their careers," Corporation Counsel Cardozo said. "Meanwhile, they will be serving the City and all its residents in an incredibly hands-on way."

The Corporation Counsel clerks – anticipated to be, at least initially, 1 or 2 positions – will work closely with the Corporation Counsel, the Law Department's Executive Staff, senior attorneys, and City officials. Recipients would be chosen by a committee of senior executives at the Law Department.

Clerk responsibilities might include trial court level litigation, appellate work or counseling, and legislative drafting on matters involving significant policy initiatives such as criminal or juvenile justice, the environment, education, social policy, municipal finance, land use and economic development. Graduates chosen will gain experience and insight into the operations and governance of New York City, and may also have the opportunity to work closely with the Mayor's Office, the City Council and various City agencies.

The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, which facilitates innovative public-private partnerships, is currently raising the necessary support for the program. Funding secured for the clerkship will cover a salary comparable to that a first-year Assistant Corporation Counsel, including benefits.

Further Information

- For those wishing to donate, contact the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City at (212) 788-7794 or fund@cityhall.nyc.gov. The Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.
- Attorneys who want to apply for future clerkships should watch for information, which will be made available online at nyc.gov/law by the Law Department's Legal Recruitment Office as it is

finalized. Clerkship qualifications include a record of academic excellence and a strong interest in New York City and its governance.

The New York City Law Department is one of the oldest, largest and most dynamic law offices in the world, ranking among the top largest law offices in New York City and one of the largest public law offices in the country. Tracing its roots back to the 1600's, the Department has an active caseload of 90,000 matters and transactions in 17 legal divisions. The Corporation Counsel heads the Law Department and acts as legal counsel for the Mayor, elected officials, the City and all its agencies. The Department's 650 attorneys represent the City on a vast array of civil litigation, legislative and legal issues and in the criminal prosecution of juveniles. For more information, please visit www.nyc.gov/law.

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