



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

Michael A. Cardozo, *Corporation Counsel*

Press Release

nyc.gov/law

For Immediate Release

**CORPORATION COUNSEL MICHAEL A. CARDOZO
AWARDS INAUGURAL LAW DEPARTMENT CLERKSHIP
TO CANDICE CHO**

***MS. CHO IS STUDYING AT COLUMBIA LAW AND HAS DEGREES FROM
GEORGETOWN AND HARVARD UNIVERSITIES***

***CORPORATION COUNSEL CARDOZO THANKS FIRMS THAT DONATED
TO HELP LAUNCH THIS INNOVATIVE CLERKSHIP;
400 CANDIDATES HAD APPLIED***

Contact: Kate O'Brien Ahlers, Communications Director, NYC Law, (212) 788-0400, media@law.nyc.gov

New York, March 28, 2011 – Corporation Counsel Michael A. Cardozo today proudly announced Candice Cho as the winner of the New York City Law Department's first-ever Corporation Counsel Clerkship. Ms. Cho was selected from over 400 applicants for the position.

In November 2011, Cardozo 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—is allowing 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.

"We had an extraordinarily competitive pool of applicants," noted Corporation Counsel Cardozo. "However, I cannot think of a better candidate than Candice Cho. She combines both a razor-sharp intellect with a strong and abiding interest in public affairs. We have no doubt she will make valuable contributions during her Law Department clerkship, and we look forward to watching her career and her interest in public service continue to soar. She represents all the brightest talents of those who will shape the City of tomorrow."

Ms. Cho echoed this excitement. "I am thrilled and honored to be selected for the inaugural Corporation Counsel Clerkship. 'Externing' for the Corporation Counsel's Office as a law student last year introduced me to some of the diverse and difficult legal issues facing the City—as well as the rewards of belonging to the team of lawyers dedicated to successfully meeting those challenges and serving the public interest. I hope to continue the Department's long tradition of excellent and enterprising work, and I can't wait to give back to the City I have come to call home."

Corporation Counsel Cardozo also extended special thanks to the firms that helped make the clerkship possible. "We appreciate the donations of firms, including Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP, Latham & Watkins LLP, Linklaters LLP, Proskauer Rose LLP, Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, Willkie Farr & Gallaher LLP, and Winston & Strawn LLP, who recognized the program's value and supported this innovative opportunity. Their generosity cannot be understated, nor can their important impact on New York City."

Ms. Cho brings an extraordinary resume to the New York City Law Department. Cho most recently worked as a legal extern at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Her other public sector experience includes the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, where she externed in the Domestic Violence Unit, and the Office of U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin, where she developed and advanced the Senator's legislative priorities in food safety, consumer product safety, and public housing issues.

In 2011, Cho served as a legal extern in the New York City Law Department's Legal Counsel Division, where she worked with Law Department staff to advise City agencies and elected officials on legal, policy, and political issues. (Clerkship candidates do not have to have externed at the Law Department, though.)

Ms. Cho will be graduating from Columbia Law School ('12) and has a Master of Public Policy in Health Policy from Georgetown University ('06). She earned her B.A. from Harvard University ('04).

The Corporation Counsel Clerkship offers an unprecedented opportunity for some of the brightest legal minds to gain unparalleled public service experience and access early in their careers, according to Corporation Counsel Cardozo. The program, launching with the initial clerkship, may eventually be expanded to include more than one position.

Ms. Cho will work closely with the Corporation Counsel, the Law Department's Executive Staff, senior attorneys, and City officials. Her responsibilities could potentially 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. The clerkship is seen as a way to gain experience and insight into the operations and governance of New York City. Ms. Cho 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, has worked with the Law Department to raise the necessary support for the program. Funding secured for the clerkship is covering a salary comparable to that of a first-year Assistant Corporation Counsel, including benefits.

Further Information

- For those wishing to donate to future clerkships, 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.
- The Law Department anticipates announcing future clerkship opportunities this fall. As the process is finalized, information for applying will be available online through the Law Department's Legal Recruitment Office at www.nyc.gov/law.
- Clerkship qualifications include a record of academic excellence and a strong interest in New York City and its governance.

As in Ms. Cho's case, recipients would be chosen by a committee of senior executives at the Law Department.

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.

###