

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR PRIVATE FIRM ATTORNEYS



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT

OVERVIEW

The New York City Law Department is one of the oldest, largest, and most dynamic law offices in the world, ranking among the largest law offices in New

York City—and one of the largest public law offices in the United States. Tracing its roots back to the 1600's, the Department has an active caseload of 80,000 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 625-plus 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, visit nyc.gov/law.



MESSAGE FROM THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

Thank you for your interest in the Law Department's volunteer programs. We're proud to provide one of the most challenging and rewarding ways for attorneys to hone their skills. Here lawyers in the private sector will gain invaluable courtroom and deposition experience while serving the public good. Our volunteer attorneys handle complex police cases, challenging tort claims, and a host of other intriguing matters. They add client value to their firms, with associates in particular returning as more seasoned litigators. Here's how:

Our **Public Service Program** enables firms and their attorneys to volunteer time and assist with the Law Department's heavy caseload. It's a public / private initiative that grew from law firms' generous efforts to aid New York City after 9/11.

Our **Deferred Associate Program** gives attorneys whose employment start dates have been deferred the same first-rate training, assignments, and responsibilities as our own first-year attorneys.

As a volunteer associate told me: "For one case, I handled the cross-examination, the opening and the closing. It was the most beneficial thing that I've done. When you tackle a case from start-to-finish, you literally get an entire legal education in one week."

This is a win-win opportunity, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Michael A. Cardo
MICHAEL A. CARDOZO
CORPORATION COUNSEL

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

The Program has three different segments:

- Tort Trial Participants
- Deposition Participants
- In-House Firm Participants

“ Our participation in the Public Service Program has been a terrific experience. Simpson Thacher lawyers have had the opportunity to try cases to juries while rendering valuable assistance to the City in a time of extreme financial hardship. Our relationship with the Law Department is a true partnership; the office provides continual support and guidance once it has referred a case. ”

William T. Russell, Jr.
Partner and Pro Bono Committee Co-Chair
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

“ Working in the Manhattan Trial Unit is an invaluable experience. Trying a different case each week is so dynamic, and I have definitely gained the skills I was hoping to acquire through this externship. It truly has been a pleasure working with, and learning from, the exceptional attorneys in this office. ”

Sarah Yardeni
Associate
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Tort Trial Participant



DEPOSITION PARTICIPANTS

Volunteer associates obtain hands-on experience conducting depositions in tort cases, which range from individual damages actions to complex class actions and multi-party litigation. Deposition schedules can be tailored to meet the needs of the firm.

Deposition participants have also provided assistance to the Law Department's Special Federal Litigation Division in high-profile federal court matters, including the 2004 Republican National Convention, Central Park Jogger, and Critical Mass bicycle cases.

TORT TRIAL PARTICIPANTS

Volunteer mid-level associates work full-time in the Law Department's Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan or Queens Tort Division offices for four to six months, where they experience all aspects of civil trial work including arguing motions, picking juries, examining witnesses, and presenting opening and closing statements.

This continues to be an extraordinary opportunity for firm associates to gain substantial courtroom experience in a relatively short time. Associates are assigned multiple trial-ready cases during their service, leading to the possibility of obtaining numerous settlements and verdicts.

IN-HOUSE FIRM PARTICIPANTS

Firms take newly filed tort and Section 1983 matters in-house, giving partners and associates the chance to handle cases from inception to disposition. This includes participation in depositions, motion practice, court conferences, settlement negotiations, and, ultimately, trials. Issues handled have included premises liability, motor vehicle accidents, inadequate supervision, wrongful incarceration, false arrest, and malicious prosecution.

A new feature is the addition of trial-ready cases, in which firms take on cases for trial only. These cases are handled at the Law Department during the pre-trial stage.

DEFERRED ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The Deferred Associate Program is open to law school graduates who have been offered a job by a firm but whose employment start dates have been deferred. It enables graduates to gain experience working for the City while honing practical skills that are directly relevant to their private law firm careers.

Participants in the program receive the same high-quality supervision, training, mentoring, and work assignments received by the Department's paid, first-year Assistant Corporation Counsels. In turn, they agree to work on a full-time basis for a minimum of four months.

Placements are available in most of our 17 legal divisions, with most positions available in litigating divisions where ample courtroom experience is available. Most volunteer attorneys would be responsible for their own caseload.

“ At the Law Department, I gained hands-on training and the skills to litigate a case from start to finish. This enabled me to begin as an associate with a foundation in managing client relationships, and the confidence to interact with opposing counsel and the court.

Samantha Springer
Associate
Proskauer Rose LLP
Deferred Associate, General Litigation Division



FIRMS DONATING SERVICES SINCE 2007

Allen & Overy
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP
Chadbourne & Parke LLP
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
Dewey & LeBoeuf
DLA Piper
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.
Fish & Richardson

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy
Milberg LLP
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo P.C.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Morrison & Foerster LLP
Nixon Peabody LLP
O'Melveny & Myers LLP
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw & Pittman LLP
Proskauer Rose LLP

Fleming Zulack Williamson Zauderer LLP
Fulbright & Jaworski LLP
Holland & Knight
Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP
Kaye Scholer LLP
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP
Latham & Watkins LLP
Linklaters
Hogan Lovells
Lynch Rowin LLP
Mayer Brown LLP

Pryor Cashman LLP
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP
Ropes & Gray LLP
Shearman & Sterling LLP
Sidley Austin LLP
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Sokoloff Stern LLP
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP
White & Case LLP
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP
Winston & Strawn LLP

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