



**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL (HARRISBURG)
ASSISTANT COUNSEL
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

The Pennsylvania Governor's Office of General Counsel (OGC) seeks a licensed attorney to serve as Assistant Counsel in the Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) at the Department of Agriculture. This position is based in Harrisburg and will be classified as an Attorney 1. The primary mission of the Department is to encourage, protect and promote agriculture and related industries throughout the Commonwealth. The Department has regulatory oversight over a wide range of activities, including food production and processing; animal and plant health; pesticide, fertilizer and manure use; animal feed manufacturing; soil conservation and environmental protection; preservation of farmland; agricultural commodity marketing programs; food assistance; agricultural fairs, horse racing, dog licensing and kennels, amusement rides, weights and measures, and licensure of fireworks sales facilities.

This position represents is a unique opportunity for an entry-level lawyer with an interest in agriculture and related fields. The Assistant Counsel will work with the Department's Chief Counsel and other OCC colleagues in a dynamic practice that includes:

- Developing detailed knowledge of the various laws and regulations administered by the Department;
- Performing varied research projects, including but not limited to the interpretation and application of laws, regulations, court decisions, and other legal authorities on applicable points of law;
- Assisting senior attorneys in representing the Department and its various Bureaus, Boards and Commissions in litigation before trial and appellate courts, as well as actions to enforce the Department's laws and regulations;
- Preparing legal documents, briefs, pleadings and opinions;
- Drafting, reviewing, and negotiating contracts, grants, and other legal documents; and
- Devising materials pertaining to proposed legislation, procurements, and contracts.

The successful applicant will have demonstrated: (1) solid legal research, analysis and reasoning capabilities; (2) excellent written and oral communications skills, including an attention to detail; (3) a willingness to handle a variety of legal matters both independently and as part of a team; and (4) an ability to interact and function effectively within both a governmental organization and the greater legal community.

OGC provides efficient, responsive legal services to the Commonwealth, the Governor, members of his cabinet and more than 30 executive branch agencies, including the Department, which conduct the business of the Commonwealth. This includes rendering legal advice and representation concerning matters and issues arising in connection with the agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction, as well as select independent agencies.

The successful candidate must have a Juris Doctor degree from an ABA-accredited law school and be a member in good standing with the Pennsylvania Bar. Interested applicants should send a cover letter setting forth interest in this position, resume, and writing sample **no later than October 14, 2022**, to ogchiring@pa.gov, directed to Rodney R. Akers, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, 333 Market Street, 17th Floor, Harrisburg, PA, 17101. OGC is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a diverse workforce. The Commonwealth values inclusion as we seek to recruit, develop, and retain the most qualified people to serve the citizens of Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, union membership, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, AIDS or HIV status, disability, or any other categories protected by applicable federal or state law. All diverse candidates are encouraged to apply.