



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL ASSISTANT COUNSEL (SCRANTON) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY, OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL STATE WORKERS' INSURANCE FUND DIVISION

The Pennsylvania Governor's Office of General Counsel (OGC) seeks a licensed attorney to serve as Assistant Counsel in the Department of Labor & Industry (L&I), State Workers' Insurance Fund Division. This position will be classified as either an Attorney 1, 2, or 3 depending on the level of relevant experience possessed by the successful respondent(s). An Attorney 1 is considered to have limited legal experience or exposure to a workers' compensation law practice and an Attorney 3 is considered to have significant litigation experience and a well-demonstrated understanding of workers' compensation law. This opportunity is based in Scranton and operates under a hybrid remote / in-office schedule of three days per week at the discretion of the General Counsel.

The Department of Labor & Industry is responsible for, among other services, providing legal support, representation, and advice to the primary client program areas, including the State Workers' Insurance Fund.

The State Workers' Insurance Fund (SWIF) is an enterprise fund of the Commonwealth created under Article XV of the Workers' Compensation Act (77 P.S. §§ 2601 - 2625) that exists to provide workers' compensation insurance to Pennsylvania employers, including employers who are not able to secure their workers' compensation liabilities through the commercial insurance market. Attorneys representing SWIF serve as in-house counsel and their duties include providing legal advice on all aspects of insurance underwriting and claims handling.

SWIF attorneys research and file workers' compensation petitions on behalf of SWIF and its insureds, answer petitions filed against SWIF and its insureds, represent SWIF before the Board of Claims and in Commonwealth Court, oversee and manage outside counsel's representation of SWIF and its insureds, handle SWIF's subrogation and Supersedeas Fund Reimbursement claims, assist with underwriting and premium adjustment based on payroll audits and ensure SWIF's compliance with the provisions of the Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Act, 77 P.S. § 1 et seq., in addition to the United States Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, 33 U.S. Code § 901 et seq., and the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act (Public Law 95-164; 30 USC §§ 801 et seq.). The work requires attorneys who are detail oriented, possess excellent analytical and writing skills and are proficient in litigating before civil and administrative tribunals. Knowledge of workers' compensation law is strongly preferred, but not required provided that the candidate otherwise has a genuine interest, good work ethic and solid litigation and organizational skills.

The successful applicant for this position should be interested in workers' compensation law and will be able to demonstrate: (1) experience gained through practice of the law; (2) strong legal research, reasoning, analytical, and writing abilities; (3) independent thinking and proficiency in persuasive brief writing; (4) attentiveness to detail; (5) good work habits, including speed and efficiency; and (6) effective interpersonal and communication skills, including oral presentation. The position requires the exercise of confidentiality, independent judgment, and understanding.

Applicants must have a Juris Doctor degree from an ABA-accredited law school and be a member in good standing with the Pennsylvania Bar. Interested attorneys should send a cover letter setting forth interest in this position, resume, and writing sample (no more than ten pages) not later than **April 24, 2024** to <u>ogchiring@pa.gov</u>, directed to Derek Riker, Deputy General Counsel, 333 Market

Street, 17th Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101. To learn more about OGC's mission and what it is like to be part of the OGC team, visit our website, at <u>www.ogc.pa.gov/careers</u>.

OGC is an equal employment 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.