

DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL II

THE COUNTY COUNSEL'S OFFICE

The County Counsel's role is that of legal counsel for the County of Inyo. The office offers a wide range of challenging work in a congenial atmosphere in a County with a spectacular environment. This is a countywide position. The Deputy County Counsel is expected to report to and perform work at all office and/or court locations within Inyo County as needed to complete assigned duties.

The County Counsel's office is a small office with a total of three attorneys, including the County Counsel, and two staff persons. Each lawyer handles a variety of issues, generally addressing all legal issues of assigned departments. To be successful, an attorney must be a generalist who enjoys dealing with a variety of non-routine issues.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Applicant must be an active member of the California State Bar, and possess a valid operator's license issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. The ideal applicant will have demonstrated a commitment to public service and have experience that is translatable to a county government. Public sector legal experience is helpful but not required.

EXPERIENCE: Two years experience as an attorney in the practice of public law or comparable legal experience.

NATURE OF WORK

An attorney who assists policymakers to accomplish their goals by providing legal advice, representing the County in civil actions, and providing written and oral opinions on a variety of subjects to the Board of Supervisors, and other County boards, commissions, departments and special districts.

Inyo County is a rural county in which many of the legal issues common to rural western counties tend to manifest themselves. Ninety-eight percent of the property in the County is managed by state and federal agencies and the City of Los Angeles. Current issues in the County include: Water exports to Los Angeles and within the County; federal land use decisions affecting the County; and geothermal and solar energy facility planning. The office also handles the full range of governmental issues common to most counties in California.

Preference will be given to candidates who have knowledge of state and federal statutory and case law applicable or translatable to public entities in California, including principles and case law for California and Federal Courts; current issues in the field of governmental law, and related matters. The candidates must also be able to efficiently and effectively communicate legal principles to managers and other lay people; write clearly and concisely; orally communicate in an effective manner; analyze and research complex legal issues; interpret cases, statutes, and regulations; and understand public administration problems and programs.

Assigned work is normally performed in an office or courtroom environment with continuous contact with County staff, management, general public, and outside organizations/agencies. A valued skill is the ability to identify the client's objective and to creatively find a lawful and direct means to achieve it.