

# **COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES**

## **Boston, MA**

### **GENERAL COUNSEL**

**The Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS)** is the state agency in Massachusetts responsible for providing legal services to indigent persons in criminal and civil matters in which the state or federal Constitutions, state statute, or case law require the appointment of counsel for any person who cannot afford to retain counsel. The agency provides representation in criminal, delinquency, youthful offender, child welfare, mental health, sexually dangerous person and sex offender registry cases, as well as appeals and post-conviction cases related to those matters. CPCS seeks applications for the position of General Counsel.

The General Counsel reports to the Chief Counsel and is a member of the senior management team that develops and implements agency fiscal, operational, human resource and legislative policies.

#### **The General Counsel is Responsible for:**

- Providing legal counsel to the Chief Counsel and to the CPCS governing board
- Appearing in court to represent the agency where necessary
- Playing a leadership role in developing and implementing agency litigation strategies
- Representing and advocating on behalf of the agency before the legislative and executive branches
- Drafting, filing and analyzing legislation that affects the rights of clients and agency operations
- Presenting written and oral testimony before legislative committees
- Managing staff reporting to the General Counsel
- Serving as the liaison to the Attorney General on agency litigation
- Overseeing and managing all agency public relations
- Building and maintaining relationships with bar associations to promote welfare of CPCS clients
- Working with the Chief Counsel and Human Resources on employment law issues
- Providing periodic reports to the CPCS governing board.

#### **Qualifications and Requirements**

##### **Candidates should have:**

- Strong leadership skills and qualities, and should embrace the principle of zealous advocacy in the representation of indigent persons for whom there is a right to court-appointed counsel
- Strong communication, analytical, interpersonal, negotiation and decision-making skills
- The ability to develop, support and mentor staff
- Significant public sector experience, including public policy and budget advocacy
- The ability to work with courts, state administrators and agencies, and legislators

- At least five years of legal experience, including experience in the provision of legal services to indigent persons, and be eligible to practice law in Massachusetts.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience.

Candidates should submit a résumé and a statement of interest to Paula DiChiappari, Committee for Public Counsel Services, 44 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA 02108. Applications may be submitted by mail, by fax to 617-988-8495, or by e-mail to [generalcounsel@publiccounsel.net](mailto:generalcounsel@publiccounsel.net).

Applications should be submitted by **September 22, 2010**, but may be accepted until the position is filled.

**The Committee for Public Counsel Services is an equal opportunity employer.**

The agency actively seeks to diversify its workforce.

*For information on the Committee for Public Counsel Services, see [www.mass.gov/cpcs](http://www.mass.gov/cpcs).*