

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM FOR PRIVATE FIRM ATTORNEYS



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

Thank you for your interest in the Law Department's Public Service Program. 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.

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.



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. CARDOZO
CORPORATION COUNSEL

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

The Program has three different segments:

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

“ 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

“ 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



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.

FIRMS DONATING SERVICES SINCE 2007

Allen & Overy LLP
Baker & Hostetler LLP
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP
Chadbourne & Parke LLP
Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC
Covington & Burling LLP
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
Dechert LLP

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
Levi Lubarsky & Feigenbaum LLP
Linklaters LLP
Loeb & Loeb LLP

O'Melveny & Myers LLP
Olshan Frome Wolosky LLP
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
Patton Boggs LLP
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
Proskauer Rose LLP
Pryor Cashman LLP
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP
Ropes & Gray LLP



DLA Piper
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP
Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.
Fish & Richardson P.C.
Flemming Zulack Williamson Zauderer LLP
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP
Fulbright & Jaworski LLP
Goodwin Procter LLP
Granger & Associates LLC
Holland & Knight LLP

Hogan Lovells
Lynch Rowin LLP
Mayer Brown LLP
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP
Milberg LLP
Miller Korzenik Sommers LLP
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Morrison & Foerster LLP
Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason, Anello & Bohrer, P.C.
Nixon Peabody 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
Wilkie Farr & Gallagher LLP
Winston & Strawn LLP

“ Participating in the Law Department’s Public Service Program is incredibly rewarding. Our associates have the opportunity to sharpen their deposition skills and receive excellent mentoring from the Law Department. These experiences help them gain confidence in their skills while doing a great service for the City of New York.

Jessica M. Klein
Head of Pro Bono Practice
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

“ Our participation in the Public Service Program has been an extremely rewarding experience for our associates, allowing them to hone their deposition skills while providing much needed assistance to the City. The associates who have participated uniformly praised both the experience of a multi-week immersion into a fast-paced deposition practice and the congenial working atmosphere. We are delighted to partner with the City in this project.

Vilia B. Hayes
Partner and Pro Bono Committee Co-Chair
Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

“ As a litigator, this program provided me an opportunity to sharpen fundamental advocacy skills and offered me valuable insights on how to manage different personalities in an adversarial context. And on a personal level, it was a rewarding experience to give back to the community by representing New York City.

Nicholas A. Secara
Associate
Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP

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