



City of Stockton

CITY ATTORNEY (EXTENDED DEADLINE)

SALARY	\$133.91 - \$157.54 Hourly \$10,712.95 - \$12,603.48 Biweekly \$278,536.82 - \$327,690.38 Annually	LOCATION	City of Stockton, CA
JOB TYPE	At-Will	JOB NUMBER	0126-CITY ATTORNEY
DEPARTMENT	City Attorney's Office	DIVISION	City Attorney (1400)
OPENING DATE	01/15/2026	CLOSING DATE	3/1/2026 11:59 PM Pacific

DEFINITION

AT-WILL OPPORTUNITY

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

TENTATIVE INTERVIEW DATE: TBD



The City of Stockton is seeking to fill one (1) vacancy for the City Attorney. The ideal candidate will be of the highest integrity and genuinely committed to developing a strong customer service ethic, responsive to organizational needs, and open and honest in all internal and external relationships. The desired candidate will be known for the use of innovative, forward-thinking, and creative methods in planning for workforce development. Candidates must be capable of managing extraordinarily complex issues in the context of an overall management team and be action-oriented and passionate about change and innovation. Candidates for this position should be exceptional leaders, capable of planning and directing the services of the City Attorney's Office and coordinating efforts with other divisions and City departments within a sophisticated, fast-paced environment.

This is a Confidential At-Will (Unclassified/Unrepresented) position. In accordance with the Charter of the City of Stockton, Article XIII Section 1302, the City Council shall appoint the City Attorney.

Prior to appointment, eligible candidates will be required to submit to and successfully pass a background investigation, which will include fingerprinting.

Under policy direction of the City Council, acts as the Chief Legal Officer of the City with responsibility for all aspects of the City's legal work, whether performed by professional in-house staff or outside counsel; acts as the legal representative in City matters for all elected and appointed officials and City departments; performs related work as assigned by the City Council.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This single position class manages all City legal activities, including civil and criminal litigation, whether performed by in-house staff or outside counsel. Responsibilities include personally handling sensitive and complex legal matters and rendering advice and opinions to the City Council, City boards and commissions, and City departments.



PRINCIPAL DUTIES (Illustrative Only)

Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Advises the City Council on all legal matters and attends City Council meetings to provide legal advice.
- Develops and directs the implementation of goals, objectives, policies and procedures, budget and work standards for the Law Department.
- Plans, organizes, administers, reviews and evaluates the activities of professional, support and contract staff; selects assigned staff and provides for their training and professional development.
- Supervises the institution and defense of all litigation involving the City.
- Studies and interprets laws, court decisions and other authorities and provides legal advice to all City boards and commissions, the City Council and City departments regarding legal implications of all City operations.
- Evaluates all legal complaints filed against the City and recommends appropriate action.
- Defends the City and its employees in lawsuits against them for acts done in the performance of their duties.
- Represents the City in court cases.
- Reviews the sufficiency of all legal documents to which the City is a party.
- Represents the City in collection efforts.
- Prepares a variety of periodic and special reports related to Law Department activities and legal cases.

- Monitors legal developments, including proposed legislation and court decisions related to municipal law and activities; evaluates their impact on City operations and recommends appropriate action.

QUALIFICATIONS

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Education & Experience

Possession of a Juris Doctorate from an accredited college or university.

Must be licensed to practice in all the courts of California and prior to appointment must have professional legal experience in the State of California for at least seven years, including three years of experience in a local government setting.

Other Requirements:

- Must possess a valid California driver's license.
- Must be a current licensed member, active and in good standing with the California State Bar.

Knowledge of:

- Principles and procedures of civil and criminal law, particularly as they are related to municipal government, including civil, criminal, and administrative procedure;
- Principles, methods, and practices of legal research and investigations;
- Judicial procedures and the rules of evidence;
- Pleadings and practices and effective techniques in the presentation of court cases;
- Municipal government organization, structure, and functional responsibilities;
- Responsibilities and obligations of public officials and administrative agencies;
- State and federal laws and constitutional provisions affecting municipal operations;
- Administrative principles and practices, including goal setting, budget development and implementation and employee supervision.

Skill in:

- Planning, organizing, administering, reviewing, and evaluating professional, contract, and other support staff;
- Communicating effectively, tactfully and positively in both oral and written form;
- Selecting, training, motivating, and evaluating departmental staff;
- Performing complex legal research, analyzing complex problems, evaluating alternatives, and making sound recommendations;
- Preparing clear, concise and complete legal documentation and reports, correspondence, and other written materials;
- Developing, implementing and interpreting goals, objectives, policies, procedures, work standards, and internal controls;
- Analyzing and applying legal principles and precedents to specific local government problems;
- Making effective court and hearing presentations;
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the work;
- Representing the City effectively in meetings with others.

Physical/Mental Abilities

- Mobility - Constant sitting and bending, for long periods of time while operating a keyboard; occasional walking, bending of neck, squatting, climbing stairs, kneeling, and twisting;
- Lifting - Occasional lifting and carrying of 10 pounds or less; occasional carrying of 10 pounds or less;

- Vision - Constant use of overall visual capabilities; frequent need for use of color perception, hand/eye coordination, reading and/or close up work;
- Dexterity - Constant typing; frequent repetitive motion and writing; occasional grasping, pushing, pulling, and reaching;
- Hearing/Talking - Constant hearing and talking of normal speech in person and on the telephone;
- Special Requirements - Occasionally requires weekend, evening work may require driving to additional worksites;
- Emotional/Psychological - Constant concentration, decision making and public contact; occasional ability to exercise sound judgment, especially under stressful situations; and working alone;
- Environmental Conditions - Occasional exposure to noise and outdoor conditions; and
- Working Conditions - Primarily performed in an office environment which is typically quiet.

This class specification should not be interpreted as all inclusive. It is intended to identify the essential functions and requirement of this job. Incumbents may be requested to perform job-related responsibilities and tasks other than those stated in this specification. Any essential function or requirement of this class will be evaluated as necessary should an incumbent/applicant be unable to perform the function or requirement due to a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodation for the specific disability will be made for the incumbent/applicant when possible.

The Interview Process:

Only those applicants who best fit the needs of the City will be considered for this exciting career opportunity. You are required to complete the following: on-line application, completed supplemental questionnaire, a cover letter, a resume and six references. All information will be reviewed and only the most qualified applicants will be invited to an interview with the hiring department.

ALL INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED FULLY AND SUBMITTED ON-LINE PLEASE DO NOT STATE "REFER TO RESUME".

NOTES:

- After on-line submittal, immediate notification will appear on your screen indicating your application has been received. Please print this notice as proof of filing.
- **Notices and correspondence will be sent via e-mail only. No paper notices will be mailed to applicants. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure a correct e-mail address is provided and that correspondence is being received.**
- **NeoGov.com: You will receive correspondence via the e-mail address you placed on your application. Some e-mail accounts have been known to place these e-mails in the spam/junk file. Please check your e-mail folders or accept e-mails ending with neogov.com.**

In accordance with California Government Code section 3100, et., seq., all City of Stockton employees are considered disaster service workers who may be required to report for duty, or remain on duty to address disaster service activities in the event of an emergency or disaster and are required to undertake an applicable loyalty oath.

This position is Exempt from FLSA (Fair Labor and Standards Act), does not qualify for overtime compensation, and is subject to Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) annual filing requirements. For more information, visit www.fppc.ca.gov.

The City requires employees in this position to reasonably respond to emergencies at all times. The City Attorney will be required to maintain a primary residence within 45 minutes of City Hall in order to timely respond to emergencies and meet the health, safety and welfare needs of the City.

City of Stockton

425 N. El Dorado St.

3rd Floor

Stockton, California, 95202

Phone

(209) 937-8233

(209) 937-8234

Website

<http://www.stocktonca.gov/>

CITY ATTORNEY (EXTENDED DEADLINE) Supplemental Questionnaire

*QUESTION 1

The Supplemental Questionnaire is part of the recruitment process; accordingly, it should be completed carefully. It must be submitted with your official on-line employment application. Do not indicate "See Resume" as an answer to any of these questions.

I certify that the information provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

*QUESTION 2

Are you a current member in good standing with the California State Bar?

Yes

No

*QUESTION 3

If "Yes" to Question #2, please indicate your Bar membership number below. If none, write N/A.

QUESTION 4

Education: This position requires possession of a **Juris Doctorate** from an accredited college or university.

Proof of Education:

All applicants are required to submit proof of education (unofficial transcripts, grade report or copy of diploma) as part of the application process. Failure to submit proof of education by the final filing date will result in application denial. You may submit the required documentation in one of the following ways:

I understand this requirement and will provide this documentation to andrelyn.petate@stocktonca.gov OR attach my education to my application.

*QUESTION 5

EDUCATION Please indicate the accredited college or university in which you obtained your degree in law?

*QUESTION 6

EXPERIENCE Do you possess seven (7) years of experience in the active practice of law in the State of California with at least three (3) years of experience in a local government setting? (Experience must be listed on the on-line application.)

Yes

No

***QUESTION 7**

Do you possess, or are you able to obtain prior to employment, a valid California driver's license?

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 8**

Please explain your knowledge of local government including, but not limited to government affairs, public policy, economic development, public safety, and/or land use. If none, indicate N/A.

***QUESTION 9**

Please explain your knowledge of Federal, State, and City laws, statutes, and ordinances pertaining to local government operations.

***QUESTION 10**

Please explain your defense litigation experience.

***QUESTION 11**

What is your professional experience engaging and working with diverse populations?

*** Required Question**