

HIDALGO COUNTY

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY IV

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs senior-level legal work; Work involves prosecuting and defending all manner of civil and criminal matters in various levels of trials and appellate courts and administrative forums. Work under the supervision of higher level attorneys in an effort to build the knowledge, skills, and expertise necessary for this position. Investigates and litigates various cases filed with the District Attorney's office.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Will make decisions and/or counsels with clients, victims, or police concerning the commencement of proceedings in court or related forums

May also provide written or oral legal advice to individual or governmental clients, and draft legal instruments or other written materials carrying legal implication

Appears in court and/or related forums to select juries, present and cross-examine evidence, make legal arguments, and act as an oral advocate

Drafts and files pleadings, answering motions, briefs and responses necessary to conduct litigation and/or proceedings in related forums

Investigate facts giving rise to legal issues, and bring about solutions to their clients legal problems in a variety of forums

Counsels and advises clients within bounds of confidentiality, when applicable, regarding legal issues in all phases of litigation

Identifies, locates, and prepares witnesses to present testimony effectively in court or related forums

Identifies and prepares non-testimonial forms of evidence for use in court and related forums

Conducts and/or supervises investigations and/or civil and criminal discovery proceedings

Drafts legal instruments and various documents with legal implications

Negotiates with others to settle litigation or other contested matters or to assist in solving problems with legal implications

Develops knowledge and expertise in applicable area of law to keep pace with constant developments and to impart this knowledge and skills to others in various settings

Performs related work as assigned

GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

Experience and Education

Three to four (3-4) years of experience as a licensed attorney

Juris Doctorate (JD) degree

Licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Texas

Two (2) years of experience may be substituted for one (1) year of education

Certificates, Licenses & Registration

Must have a current valid Texas motor vehicle operator's license

Must be able to be insured by the County's insurance carrier

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Ability to work efficiently and effectively in high-pressure situations

Ability to communicate effectively

Able to handle all stressful situations with an even temperament and work effectively with others in achievement of tasks

Must possess advanced professional level of analytical ability and be very well versed in the art of being diplomatic and tactful in addition to the use of good judgment and common sense

Must possess necessary writing skills at a seasoned level to communicate information and directions to attorneys, detectives, police agencies and citizens

Must be computer literate

Knowledge of all applicable laws and procedures

Must have good working knowledge and understanding of penal statutes and code of criminal procedures as well as case holdings and departmental policies

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to stand. The employee is occasionally required to walk; sit; use hands to find, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop and kneel.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move over 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounter while performing the essential functions of this job.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Maintain physical conditions appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities which may include the following:

- sitting for extended periods of time
- operating assigned equipment

Maintain mental capacity which permits:

- making sound decisions and using good judgment
- demonstrating intellectual capabilities

Effectively handle a work environment and conditions which involve:

- working closely with others
- working in a multi-task environment

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for:

- making observations
- reading and writing

- operating assigned equipment
- communication with others
- required to follow the Hidalgo County Accident Prevention Plan and department's safety regulations



HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR I

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs entry level criminal investigation work; Investigate assigned criminal activities. Perform supplementary investigation to assist prosecutors in case preparations. Make arrests and file criminal cases.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

- Investigates all types of criminal activities and assists prosecutors in case preparation
- Assists local, state, federal and out-of-state police offices in making arrests and filing criminal cases
- Prepares and executes search and arrest warrants and serves subpoenas
- Interviews inmates and other people to secure intelligence data and information; takes statements and confessions
- Obtains evidence from police agencies and pen packet from various prison systems
- Evaluates videotaped interviews of children who are victims of physical/sexual abuse
- Testifies in criminal trials
- Performs all other related duties as assigned

GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

Experience and Education

- One (1) year of experience in related field functioning as a law enforcement officer
- Associate's degree in Law Enforcement

Certificates, Licenses, Registrations

- Texas Peace Officer certification from the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE)
- Mandatory firearms qualification and physical training

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Excellent verbal and written communication skills are necessary

Skill is required in preparing written products and oral presentations

Ability to think logically and objectively

Ability to analyze and evaluate facts, evidence and related information

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to stand. The employee is occasionally required to walk; sit; use hands to find, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop and kneel.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move over 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounter while performing the essential functions of this job.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Maintain physical conditions appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities which may include the following:

- sitting for extended periods of time
- operating assigned equipment

Maintain mental capacity which permits:

- making sound decisions and using good judgment
- demonstrating intellectual capabilities

Effectively handle a work environment and conditions which involve:

- working closely with others
- working in a multi-task environment

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for:

- making observations
- reading and writing
- operating assigned equipment
- communication with others
- required to follow the Hidalgo County Accident Prevention Plan and department's safety regulations

