

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, Maryland 21202

www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov

## EXTENDED CLOSING DATE JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Principal Counsel/Division Director (AAG) Maryland Department of Transportation

Posting Date: May 21, 2024 Closing Date: Open/Continuous

Job Title: Principal Counsel/Division Director (AAG) Position Type: Regular Full-Time

Salary: Grade 27 (\$124,358 - \$201,161). The salary range is based on a multitude of factors including

applicable personnel rules, regulations, and guidelines.

**Location:** Office of the Attorney General, Maryland Department of Transportation

The Secretary's Office

7201 Corporate Center Drive Hanover, MD 21076

**Telework:** A hybrid remote telework and in-office schedule option is available per applicable policies and

procedures.

**<u>DESCRIPTION</u>**: The Attorney General is the chief legal officer of the State of Maryland. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has the general charge, supervision, and direction of the State's legal business, acting as legal advisors and representatives of the major agencies, various boards, commissions, officials, and institutions of State Government. The OAG also protects the public by civil enforcement of antitrust, civil rights, consumer protection, and securities laws and regulations and by the prosecution of organized crime, Medicaid fraud, environmental crimes, insurance fraud, state tax evasion, and other statutorily assigned matters. As Maryland's 47th Attorney General, Anthony G. Brown leads the Office with a critical focus on equity, justice, and fairness.

The Principal Counsel/Division Director at Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), provides legal advice and representation to the MDOT senior leadership team. Practice areas include finance, procurement, contracts, legislation, ethics, and administrative law. MDOT encompasses six business units (the State's highway, transit, motor vehicle, port, aviation, and tolling functions). The Principal Counsel/Division Director provides leadership to a staff of approximately 57 Assistant Attorneys General, which includes Principal and Deputy Counsel, Staff Attorneys, and administrative staff at each of the MDOT business units (modes). The Principal Counsel/Division Director ensures that the MDOT leadership and OAG legal staff at the 6 modes communicate effectively on complex transportation matters; and works with the MDOT Deputy Counsel to manage the budget and handle other administrative matters for the office.

The written and verbal advice that the Principal Counsel/Division Director provides to MDOT includes researching and drafting memoranda, opinions, and correspondence, consulting with federal agency attorneys, bond counsel, other assistant counsel, and attorneys and members of the public. The Principal Counsel provides legal advice on and assists with drafting and negotiating contracts and agreements with State and local agencies and political subdivisions, as well as providing legal sufficiency reviews on consultant, service, construction, supply, and maintenance contracts. The advice function also carries the responsibility of providing written and verbal advice to MDOT concerning legislative and regulatory proposals, as well as advising MDOT of its rights, obligations, remedies, potential claims and liabilities that arise in the course carrying out its transportation functions.

The Principal Counsel/Division Director also coordinates the representation of MDOT interests and personnel in matters before administrative, State, and federal courts. This litigation function requires the ability to draft and review complaints and pleadings; conduct discovery; prepare witnesses and exhibits; research legal and evidentiary issues; conduct examination and cross-examination of witnesses at trial; drafts briefs and memoranda of law; and present oral argument on behalf of MDOT in appellate courts.

**EXPERIENCE:** The ideal candidate will have 10+ years of experience in providing advice and/or conducting litigation in transportation law. 5+ years of managing a large multidisciplinary legal staff in a fast-paced, high-volume environment. Existing knowledge of state government, and experience working with senior leadership on the development of transportation strategies is preferred. Admission to the Maryland Bar is required.

<u>SUBMISSION:</u> Candidates should submit a cover letter and resume by email to Leonard Howie, Deputy Attorney General, to <u>lhowie@oag.state.md.us</u> and cc to Chinequa Powell, at <u>cpowell@oag.state.md.us</u> as soon as possible. Please write "Principal Counsel/Division Director- MDOT" in the subject of the email.

**EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:** The successful candidate will be eligible for subsidized health benefits (medical, prescription, dental and vision coverage) and life insurance; leave, including annual (vacation), personal, sick, and paid parental leave; and will be eligible for participation in a contributory defined benefit pension plan in which they are vested after ten years. State employees are eligible to participate in two supplemental retirement plans: the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan and the 401(k) Savings and Investment Plan. The State also offers a free mass transit benefit for local bus and express bus services.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:** The OAG is an equal opportunity employer that encourages all interested persons to apply regardless of race, color, religion or belief, ancestry, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, pregnancy, family or parental status, veteran status, genetic information, or any protected category prohibited by local, state or federal laws.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING: The Office of the Attorney General views equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging as the pathway to achieving professional excellence and fostering and maintaining a culture where every employee can thrive. We strive to create a community that draws upon the best pool of talent to unify excellence and diversity while fully embracing individuals from varied backgrounds, cultures, races, identities, life experiences, perspectives, beliefs, and values. We honor, respect, and celebrate all differences, both visible and invisible, and are committed to recruiting, retaining, and promoting individuals who have historically been underrepresented in the practice of law and professional careers.