THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

Located on the Southern California coast with a culturally diverse population of 3.2 million, Orange County offers a high quality of life and a nearly perfect climate year-round. Commonly referred to as “The O.C.,” Orange County has thirty-four incorporated cities with seven of these cities among the 200 largest cities in the United States. Orange County features a wide variety of businesses and unlimited recreational opportunities.

Orange County is a Charter County governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors elected to four-year terms who is committed to maximizing resources and improving the quality of life for residents in Orange County. The 25 departments that make up the County government strive to make Orange County a safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to live, work and play, by providing vital services to the community. The County’s core businesses are public safety, public health, environmental protection, regional planning, public assistance, social services, and aviation.

OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW (OIR)

The Office of Independent Review (OIR) acts as an independent resource and counsel for the County of Orange Board of Supervisors to monitor and provide oversight to the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, Probation Department, and the Social Services Agency, with a focus on identifying and addressing systemic issues. The OIR works to ensure that the County agencies within its jurisdiction conduct their work in a manner that serves the needs of the community and is in keeping with applicable laws and best practices.

The OIR was initially established in 2015. Since then, it has operated under changing legal mandates and has experienced periods of dormancy. In 2020, the OIR was re-established with the hire of the office’s Executive Director and Investigations Manager.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The OIR seeks an impartial and knowledgeable attorney to serve as a Staff Attorney.

Under the supervision of the Executive Director, the position assists with re-establishing the OIR and plans and conducts reviews of relevant County departments.

Key duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
• Analyzing, organizing, and synthesizing a variety of data, including reviews of statistics, facility conditions, policies, and other relevant factors, in order to make recommendations designed to eliminate unnecessary uses of force, misconduct, public harm, and the County’s exposure to lawsuits
• Assessing specific incidents occurring in relevant County agencies which may be the result of systemic issues
• Receiving, assessing, and responding to complaints regarding relevant County agencies
• Analyzing and revising County policies and protocols to ensure adherence to federal, state, and local legal standards and best practices
• Consulting with County officials, employees, community members, and other stakeholders to develop periodic recommendations for policy and procedural changes designed to improve the operations of relevant agencies and eliminate systemic areas of concern
• Interacting with and interviewing members of the public and County employees
• Drafting reports detailing the findings of investigations and related conclusions
• Reporting to on-scene investigations of critical incidents, including uses of force by County employees or in-custody deaths
• Developing and implementing new efforts to carry out the mission of the OIR.

LICENSE REQUIRED
An active membership in the State Bar of California is required. Members in good standing of California State Bar and have been assigned a license number but have inactive membership status are also welcome to apply. An active California State Bar membership must be attained by date of appointment.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS
The ideal candidate will possess at least three (3) or more years of experience as an attorney, with experience conducting investigations focused on systems, policies, and/or practices that extend beyond a single incident and a single individual and/or working in social services or in a prosecutor’s or public defender’s office.

Link to Apply: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/oc/jobs/3137122/attorney-iii