

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
JOB DESCRIPTION**

POSITION TITLE: ATTORNEY III -  
Legal Services

SALARY GROUP: B23

DEPARTMENT: State Counsel for Offenders

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CERTIFICATION: I certify that, to my knowledge, this is an accurate and complete description of the essential functions and the conditions required for this position.

APPROVED BY: Rudolph Brothers, Jr. DATE: 07/10/2014

POSITION #: 015066

**I. JOB SUMMARY**

Performs moderately complex attorney work. Work involves planning and organizing work; interpreting laws, rules, and regulations; preparing legal documents; rendering legal advice and counsel; consulting with trial attorneys; conducting hearings; assisting in preparing cases for trial; and training others. Works under general supervision with moderate latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

**II. ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

- A. Provides representation to offenders; confers with and counsels offenders regarding legal alternatives; and prepares and tries cases before state and federal courts.
  - B. Works with prosecutors, court coordinators, and court reporters regarding court appearances and depositions.
  - C. Investigates, organizes, develops, and researches arguments for trial and appellate work.
  - D. Prepares legal opinions and briefs; reviews drafts of laws, rules, and regulations affecting agency operations; counsels divisions in the applicability of decisions to various circumstances; and assists in planning and organizing work assignments.
- \* Performs a variety of marginal duties not listed, to be determined and assigned as needed.

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**III. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

**A. Education, Experience, and Training**

1. Graduation from a law school accredited by an organization recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or by the United States Department of Education (USDE) with a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) or Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree.
2. Two years full-time, wage-earning experience as a licensed attorney.
3. Must maintain a current active license to practice law in the State of Texas during employment with Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) through the State Bar of Texas or other appropriate Texas licensing authority.

**B. Knowledge and Skills**

1. Knowledge of the practice of criminal, civil, and constitutional law in state, appellate, and federal courts.
2. Knowledge of legal principles, practices, and proceedings.
3. Knowledge of agency and departmental organizational structure, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations preferred.
4. Skill to analyze legal problems, prepare opinions, and interpret laws, rules, and regulations.
5. Skill to communicate ideas and instructions clearly and concisely.
6. Skill to coordinate with other staff, departments, officials, agencies, organizations, and the public.
7. Skill to interpret and apply rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.
8. Skill in problem-solving techniques.
9. Skill in public address.
10. Skill to prepare and maintain accurate records, files, and reports.
11. Skill to review technical data and prepare technical reports.

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12. Skill to plan work in order to meet established guidelines.

13. Skill to interpret and translate Spanish to English and English to Spanish preferred.

**IV. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS WITH OR WITHOUT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION**

- A. Ability to walk, stand, sit, kneel, push, stoop, reach above the shoulder, grasp, pull, bend repeatedly, climb stairs, identify colors, hear with aid, see, write, count, read, speak, analyze, alphabetize, lift and carry under 15 lbs., perceive depth, operate a motor vehicle, and operate motor equipment.
- B. Conditions include working inside, working around machines with moving parts and moving objects, radiant and electrical energy, working closely with others, working alone, working protracted or irregular hours, and traveling by car, van, bus, and airplane.
- C. Equipment (machines, tools, devices) used in performing only the essential functions include computer and related equipment, typewriter, calculator, copier, fax machine, telephone, and automobile.