

TULARE COUNTY



INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR:

County Counsel

FIRST REVIEW: NOVEMBER 10, 2016

Recruitment Courtesy of:

HUMAN RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT

2900 West Burrel, Visalia, CA. 93291
(559)636-4900 or Fax (559)730-2597
E-mail: rsjostro@co.tulare.ca.us

About Our County Counsel Position

The County of Tulare is seeking an executive to lead a full-service law office and our team of professionals, who are committed to providing the highest quality of legal counsel and public service. We are seeking an individual who desires variety, challenge and growth in their employment. This professional will replace a long-term Counsel who is retiring, and as such, there may be an opportunity for a period of overlap and transition of departmental projects, cases, organizational matters and leadership.

Tulare County is a geographically large, rural county in central California. The knowledgeable, experienced professional expected to be hired for this opportunity will serve as chief legal advisor for the elected County Board of Supervisors, elected officials, and department heads. He/she will communicate and collaborate with all departments, the Courts, the Grand Jury, the legal community and Bar Association, special districts and other public agencies, and counterparts in California counties. He/she will be a consensus builder charged with responsibilities for developing and maintaining positive and collaborative relationships.

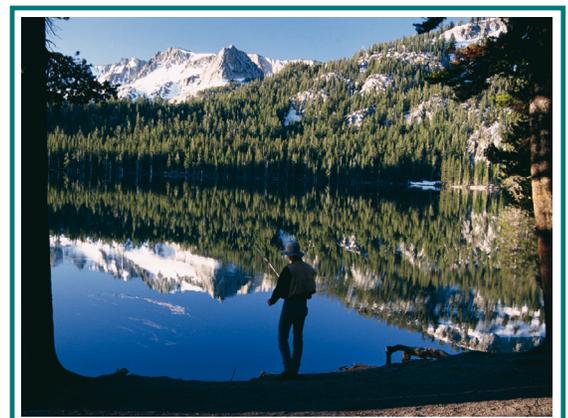
The County Counsel is an *At-Will* employee appointed by the Board of Supervisors for four year term, (Government Code Section 27641). This is a high level executive management position, requiring the ability to manage a compliment of 56 legal, professional, and support personnel. The Counsel oversees civil litigation, prepares legal contracts, attends public and closed session Board meetings, manages a departmental budget of \$4.5 million including risk management, liability, property, malpractice and worker's compensation funds, and handles all legal aspects of Child Welfare Services and conservatorships for the Public Guardian. Preventative training as well as workshops for compliance with County personnel rules and policies, sexual harassment prevention (AB 1825), and discipline practices is performed by Counsel Attorneys on a regular basis. For more information on the County Counsel budget and goals for Fiscal Year 2016-17 go to Page 235 at <http://tularecounty.ca.gov/cao/index.cfm/budget/fiscal-year-2016-17/>

The Tulare County Counsel Office

The *Vision* of the department is to meet the legal and risk management challenges facing the County of Tulare in Partnership with our clients. The *Mission* is to provide quality and innovative services to the benefit of our clients and which support the public good. This is accomplished by providing efficient and effective legal services through five teams:

- Labor and Employment
- Litigation
- Protective Services
- Resources
- Risk Management.

The County Counsel Office has been housed in three separate locations In Visalia but will be consolidated in the Spring 2017 to one location adjacent to the County Administrative Office and Board of Supervisors facilities. The refurbished building will include Counsel along with the Risk Management and Child Welfare Services functions. The office is located in a park-like setting with walking paths and a seasonal stream nearby which often attracts birds and nature. There is ample parking and easy access to the facility from Highway 198. Downtown Visalia is nearby, as well as shopping, restaurants and other amenities.



The Ideal County Counsel

A successful candidate will possess a professional history that demonstrates the following attributes and qualities:

- Demonstrates interactive leadership style, is an enthusiastic manager and proactive problem solver.
- Team oriented, dedicated to collaborative and collective accomplishments.
- Exhibits a high level of legal and administrative competence driven by a strong desire to succeed.
- Can present statements of fact and law and arguments clearly and logically in written and oral form.
- Finalize opinions, pleading, rulings, regulations and legislations.
- Ability to negotiate settlements, contracts, and other legal matters with a variety of entities.
- Political acumen to resolve conflicts.
- Financial skills to develop, analyze, and manage budgets.
- Highly knowledgeable of the principles of personnel management and supervision.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Active membership in the State Bar of California.
- A minimum of five years of full-time experience in the practice of public civil law, including two years of supervisory experience in a civil law office.
- Demonstrated knowledge, skills and abilities to successfully perform required job duties.

Compensation & Benefits

\$170,000 - \$195,000 Annually*
Benefit Allowance of \$25,100 **

- Choice of medical plan plus dental and vision benefits
- Three weeks vacation leave initially
- Sick leave provision
- Eleven paid holidays annually
- One personal leave day annually
- 1937 Act Retirement Plan, with PERS reciprocity
- Life insurance-County paid policy up to \$250,000.
- Voluntary participation in deferred compensation plans (457K plan) with a County match of \$1 dollar for every \$4 dollars employee contributes up to \$1500

**May appoint within this Salary Band
Appointment is At-Will status*

***or \$1,000 if insurance is waived*

How to Apply

To express your interest in this career opportunity, send a comprehensive resume detailing qualifications, work experience and showing career progression with advancing degrees of responsibility. Materials should reflect length of time in positions and all assignments held, as well as size and scope of operations managed and types of legal work accomplished. Send to:

**Tulare County
Human Resources & Development
Attn: Rhonda Sjostrom-Director
2900 West Burrel Street
Visalia, CA. 93291
(559) 636-4927
Or email to: rsjostro@co.tulare.ca.us
Or FAX to: (559)730-2597**

**First Review Deadline:
November 10, 2016***

**Recruitment may be extended or closed
at any time*

About Tulare County-A Quality Life

Tulare County's geographic location, centered in the State of California, makes it ideal for an active lifestyle. Tulare County stretches from the Sequoias of the Sierra Nevada's, including Mt. Whitney to the fertile valley, making Tulare County the top agricultural producing county in the nation. Our employees and their families have access to outdoor recreational opportunities you won't find in other areas AND it is all in close proximity-national parks and forests are only 45 minutes away! From hiking trails, river rafting, boating and skiing, fishing and snow skiing to individual and group sports activities, community walking and biking trails, and a multitude of County and City parks, the outdoor enthusiast and adventure seeker is provided a great playground. Our communities, schools, and churches sponsor special events such as car shows, hometown parades, and cultural festivals making Tulare County a fun place to socialize and spend quality time with family and friends. All of this is available with easy work commutes from several different communities.



Tulare County residents enjoy a lower cost of living than other California locations, making for an affordable quality of life for our employees. Housing, groceries, cars, and clothes generally have lower costs even compared to nationwide standards. Shopping opportunities range from larger malls to main street boutiques to outlet centers to gently used furniture and clothing stores-offering something for almost any value system or pocketbook! And, if that isn't enough variety, the Cities of Fresno and Bakersfield are within an hour's commute, and Los Angeles or San Francisco within a three to four hour drive. Coastal communities are also within a few hours travel.

Tulare County is large in terms of land area and comprises 8 incorporated cities and over 40 towns and communities, offering a range of housing, schools, and lifestyles to meet employees and their family's unique needs. Whether living in one of our larger cities such as Visalia, Tulare or Porterville, in a rural setting like Oroquieta or Pixley or a mountain area such as Three Rivers or Springville, employees and their families can experience the friendliness and neighborly attitude found in Tulare County. With over 462,000 residents in the County, there is plenty of room to live and grow with us!

For more information on Tulare County Counsel

Visit our website:

www.tularecountycounsel.org

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