

## TRIAL ATTORNEY

**CIVIL DIVISION (CIV)**  
**OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION LITIGATION - APPELLATE SECTION**  
**ATTORNEY**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20530**  
**UNITED STATES**  
**20170804-71325**

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**About the Office:**

The Civil Division was recently ranked as one of the top 25 places to work in the entire federal government.

The Civil Division's Office of Immigration Litigation - Appellate Section (OIL) is currently hiring nine experienced attorneys. OIL attorneys litigate immigration cases on behalf of the United States Government in the federal courts of appeals nationwide and support the Solicitor General's immigration-related litigation efforts in the United States Supreme Court. These cases involve challenges relating to whether an individual is removable from the United States, and they often contain complex questions of constitutional law, statutory interpretation, administrative law, and criminal law. Attorneys write motions and briefs, appear for oral argument, and coordinate with other branches of the federal government to ensure a uniform application of the immigration laws. OIL employs approximately 250 attorneys and 60 support staff.

**Job Description:**

OIL attorneys represent the United States Government in immigration-related petitions for review that have been filed in the federal courts of appeals nationwide. These petitions typically challenge final orders of removal issued by Immigration Judges or the Board of Immigration Appeals. Attorneys review the record of proceedings below and respond to arguments raised by the petitioner on appeal. Attorneys write motions and briefs and appear for oral argument when requested. Attorneys have a significant amount of responsibility and independence, and they work in a collegial environment with experienced litigators.

**Qualifications:**

Applicants must be a graduate from a full course of study in a School of Law accredited by the American Bar Association and be a member in good standing of the bar of a state, territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar (any jurisdiction), have at least one year of post J.D. experience to qualify at the GS-12 level; have at least two years of post J.D. experience to qualify at the GS-13 level; have at least three years of post J.D. experience to qualify at the GS-14 level; and four years of post J.D. experience to qualify at the GS-15 level. You must also be a U.S. citizen.

**Preferred qualifications:**

Appellate litigation experience  
Judicial clerkships or internships  
Public service experience (including military)

**Time-in-Grade:** Federal employees must meet time-in-grade requirements for consideration. All academic degrees and coursework must be completed at a college or university that has obtained accreditation or pre-accreditation status from an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. For a list of schools that meet this criteria, see [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).

**Salary:** \$79,270 to \$161,900 / per year

**Travel:**

Occasional travel may be required for oral arguments, but accommodations can be made for attorneys who are unable to travel.

**Application Process:**

To apply for this position, you must submit the following documents in the following order: a cover letter, resume, law school transcript (only required if you graduated from law school in 2012 or later), and writing sample (not more than 12 pages). If you are claiming veterans preference, you must also submit your DD-214, and/or other documentation supporting veterans preference.

Please consolidate the application materials into a single PDF document. Email your application to [OIL.Hiring@usdoj.gov](mailto:OIL.Hiring@usdoj.gov)

Please use "Job announcement #20170804-71325" as your subject line.

**Application Deadline:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017

**Relocation Expenses:** Not authorized.

**Number of Positions:** 9

*Updated August 15, 2017*

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## Department Policies

Equal Employment Opportunity: The U.S. Department of Justice is an Equal Opportunity/Reasonable Accommodation Employer. Except where otherwise provided by law, there will be no discrimination because of color, race, religion, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, disability (physical or mental), age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a parent, membership or non-membership in an employee organization, on the basis of personal favoritism, or any other non-merit factor. The Department of Justice welcomes and encourages applications from persons with physical and mental disabilities. The Department is firmly committed to satisfying its affirmative obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to ensure that persons with disabilities have every opportunity to be hired and advanced on the basis of merit within the Department of Justice.

Reasonable Accommodations: This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Outreach and Recruitment for Qualified Applicants with Disabilities: The Department encourages qualified applicants with disabilities, including individuals with targeted/severe disabilities to apply in response to posted vacancy announcements. Qualified applicants with targeted/severe disabilities may be eligible for direct hire, non-competitive appointment under Schedule A (5 C.F.R. § 213.3102(u)) hiring authority. Individuals with targeted/severe disabilities are encouraged to register for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Shared List of People with Disabilities (the Bender Disability Employment Registry) by submitting their resume to [resume@benderconsult.com](mailto:resume@benderconsult.com) and referencing "Federal Career Opportunities" in the subject line. Additional information about the Bender Registry is available at [www.benderconsult.com](http://www.benderconsult.com). Individuals with disabilities may also contact one of the Department's Disability Points of Contact (DPOC). See list of DPOCs.

Suitability and Citizenship: It is the policy of the Department to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment. Employment is also contingent upon the completion and satisfactory adjudication of a background investigation. Congress generally prohibits agencies from employing non-citizens within the United States, except for a few narrow exceptions as set forth in the annual Appropriations Act (see, <https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in->

government/non-citizens/). Pursuant to DOJ component policies, only U.S. citizens are eligible for employment with the Executive Office for Immigration Review, U.S. Trustee's Offices, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Unless otherwise indicated in a particular job advertisement, qualifying non-U.S. citizens meeting immigration and appropriations law criteria may apply for employment with other DOJ organizations. However, please be advised that the appointment of non-U.S. citizens is extremely rare; such appointments would be possible only if necessary to accomplish the Department's mission and would be subject to strict security requirements. Applicants who hold dual citizenship in the U.S. and another country will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All DOJ employees are subject to a residency requirement. Candidates must have lived in the United States for at least three of the past five years. The three-year period is cumulative, not necessarily consecutive. Federal or military employees, or dependents of federal or military employees serving overseas, are excepted from this requirement. This is a Department security requirement which is waived only for extreme circumstances and handled on a case-by-case basis.

Veterans: There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of Justice considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference must include that information in their cover letter or resume and attach supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and other supporting documentation) to their submissions. Although the "point" system is not used, per se, applicants eligible to claim 10-point preference must submit Standard Form (SF) 15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, and submit the supporting documentation required for the specific type of preference claimed (visit the OPM website, [www.opm.gov/forms/pdf\\_fill/SF15.pdf](http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/SF15.pdf) for a copy of SF 15, which lists the types of 10-point preferences and the required supporting document(s)). Applicants should note that SF 15 requires supporting documentation associated with service-connected disabilities or receipt of nonservice-connected disability pensions to be dated 1991 or later except in the case of service members submitting official statements or retirement orders from a branch of the Armed Forces showing that his or her retirement was due to a permanent service-connected disability or that he/she was transferred to the permanent disability retired list (the statement or retirement orders must indicate that the disability is 10% or more).

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This and other vacancy announcements can be found under [Attorney Vacancies](#) and [Volunteer Legal Internships](#). The Department of Justice cannot control further dissemination and/or posting of information contained in this vacancy announcement. Such posting and/or dissemination is not an endorsement by the Department of the organization or group disseminating and/or posting the information.