

JOB DESCRIPTION FORM

Position title/number:	Senior Legal Counsel (19100150)		
Classification:	Specified Calling Level 7		
Division:	Criminal Law		
Business Unit:	Criminal Law Practice		
Reports to:	Division Director - Specified Calling Level 8 (19100101)		
Direct reports:	0 FTE	Office location:	Perth

Job Description

The provision of high level professional advice and representation on complex criminal law matters. In recognition of their degree of experience, competence and ability, at this level the Senior Legal Counsel (Complex Trials) will be expected to operate with a significant level of professional autonomy. This position will also assist in the development of legal skills of junior Legal Aid WA lawyers through mentoring, training, and supervision as well as contribute to the development of criminal law policy as required.

About Us

Legal Aid WA has one purpose: to see that the law protects all Western Australians regardless of poverty or disadvantage. We provide legal assistance services across Western Australia and the Indian Ocean Territories. We deliver those services through our offices in the metropolitan area and regional WA, Virtual Offices, outreach locations, and private lawyers across the State on our panels. We are funded by the State and Federal Governments, are governed by a Board of Commissioners, and we are accountable to the Western Australian Attorney General.

We are guided by our vision of providing equitable access to justice to support a fair and safe community, and we are driven by our values:

- o Client centred
- o Integrity
- o Making a difference
- o Innovation
- o Respect

Scope of Duties

- Provides and demonstrates a high degree of legal ability and knowledge in advising and representing on matters of complexity.
- Provides and maintains a highly competitive level of capacity and skill in the conduct of complex litigation.
- Manages matters of complexity and sensitivity autonomously without need for direction or supervision.
- Exercises considerable initiative, professional judgement and integrity in the performance of the role.
- Provides guidance and advice on queries from in-house criminal law practitioners, including regions.
- Demonstrates an ability to influence, collaborate and engage widely with peers and external stakeholders when representing LAWA on matters of policy or liaison as required by the Director – Criminal Law.
- Works effectively as a member of a team to achieve specified outcomes and demonstrates an ability to lead and motivate others.
- Readily contributes to the development of others by providing mentoring and training support to junior colleagues throughout LAWA.

Selection Criteria

Only the criteria in bold must be addressed in applicant's written application and resume. These and the remaining selection criteria will be assessed through interview or alternative selection methods.

Essential

- **Demonstrated experience and competence in autonomously providing legal advice and representation in the area of Criminal Law at the most demanding and complex level. (High Priority)**
- Evidence of ability to engage in work practices that reflect a professional approach to the discharge of duties. (High Priority)
- **The ability to prioritise work with competing demands often under pressure. (High Priority)**
- Demonstrated integrity and ethical behaviour in all dealings with colleagues, peers and stakeholders. (High Priority)
- Proficiency in the use of electronic systems and tools to support efficient day to day working, in keeping with LAWA's business needs.

- Demonstrated ability to build and manage relationships with colleagues, peers, the profession and stakeholders. (High Priority)
- **Demonstrated skill and experience in providing training and mentoring to junior lawyers.**

Essential Core Competencies

These are essential criteria for all Legal Aid WA positions. Refer to Core Competencies Matrix in Application Guidelines.

- **Committed to the principles of social justice.**
- Values people, partnership and teamwork.
- Willingness to learn and share knowledge with others.
- Outcome and service focused.

Qualifications/Licences

It is important that you set out clearly in your application a summary of your qualifications and attach a copy of relevant qualifications with your application.

- Degree in Law or equivalent.
- Admitted as an unrestricted legal practitioner in the Supreme Court of Western Australia with at least 5 years post admission experience in criminal law.

All appointments to Legal Aid Western Australia are subject to satisfactory National Police Certificate and 100 Point Identification Check.