

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL -ANGUILLA**

### **Job Summary.**

The Government of Anguilla is looking for an outstanding lawyer and leader to undertake the role of Attorney General and head the Attorney General's Chambers in Anguilla.

### **Background.**

Anguilla is a small British Overseas Territory located in the Caribbean. It has a population of fifteen thousand (15,000) and is one of the most beautiful islands in the region. Its economy largely relies on tourism based on its 33 uncrowded beaches, crystal clear turquoise sea and wildlife. Its legal system is based on the English common law tradition. Legislation is largely that passed in the Anguillan House of Assembly in accordance with the Anguilla Constitution. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is the final court of Appeal and the superior court of first instance is the High Court of Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court.

The Attorney General is the senior law officer in the Territory and charged with advising both the democratically elected government and the Governor appointed under the Constitution by the King. Anguilla's constitution does not currently provide for a Director of Public Prosecutions and oversight of prosecutions along with legislative drafting rests with the Attorney General's Chambers.

This is an exciting time to be appointed as Attorney General for Anguilla and an opportunity to make a real difference in serving the people of Anguilla. The territory has benefited from the resurgence of tourism over the last year, post the pandemic and seen significant investment in its infrastructure following the devastation of Hurricane Irma in 2017.

As the Territory builds on these successes, in the future, the Attorney General will play an important role in delivering Governor and Government priorities in the lead up to and post an election in 2025. Pressing issues include a range of financial legislation, modernisation of the criminal justice system, environmental, health and worker protection and wider reform of the public service.

You will be part of a cohort of Attorneys General across the UK's Overseas Territories who meet regularly and as well as maintaining a relationship with the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in general.

### **Job Description – the role.**

Under Anguilla's Constitution the Attorney General is appointed by the Governor as the principal legal advisor to the Governor and the Government. The Attorney General is a member of the Executive Council (Cabinet) and the Legislative Assembly and bound by the principle of collective cabinet responsibility.

As Attorney General you will be responsible for delivery of:-

- constitutional and public law advice to the Governor and the Government on a full range of policies and initiatives to enable the Government to operate in accordance with the rule of law, the constitutional framework and the UK's international obligations.
- operational advice to government officials including law enforcement (Police, Prison, Immigration and Customs).
- contractual and employment advice to government including procurement, negotiation of major contracts and employment issues affecting the public service.

- the drafting of legislation to ensure it is produced in a timely manner and in accordance with Government priorities and that Legislation submitted to the Assembly is legally sound, and constitutionally compliant.
- civil litigation brought by and against the Government.
- conduct of criminal proceedings (in lieu of a DPP) ensuring that such proceedings are conducted efficiently, professionally and mindful of the duties of Crown Prosecutors to act independently of Government and in the interests of justice.

As head of the Attorney General's Chambers you will also lead, motivate and develop a small team of qualified lawyers and support staff. Ensuring clear priorities and challenging but realistic objectives are agreed with Ministers and the Governor and delivered in a timely fashion. You will be responsible for the Attorney General's Chambers budget, monitoring same and ensuring spending targets are set and met.

## Person specification

### Qualifications

**Legally Qualified:** The post holder must be a qualified practising attorney-at-law, solicitor or barrister of at least 15 years call in a common law jurisdiction.

**Academic:** Law degree, Common Professional Examination, Graduate Diploma.

### Knowledge

You will demonstrate sound knowledge of constitutional principles, the legal and institutional framework in which Government operates, fundamentals of legislative drafting and of civil and criminal litigation.

Experience of law and procedure within the Eastern Caribbean would be an asset, but not essential

### Skills

You will be a **strong leader – able to motivate, inspire and develop those you lead** both within the Attorney General's chambers and as a leading member of the legal profession in Anguilla.

You will be experienced at **delivering advice through others** and **managing multiple competing demands** within the Attorney General's Chambers across an extremely broad portfolio. You will do this through delegating appropriately, communicating effectively with stakeholders and ensuring the quality and timeliness of the work of your team.

You will be an experienced lawyer adept at **building relationships across a wide range of senior stakeholders** to win the confidence of those you advise and to enable you to deliver unwelcome messages where necessary.

You will have an understanding of the **cultural, social and political context of the Caribbean**. Experience working in the region would be a significant advantage although not essential.

You will be **solution focused** – with a track record of finding creative legal solutions to novel or apparently intractable problems.

You will be committed to **the highest ethical standards expected of public officials** set out in the seven principles of public life (the Nolan principles) and uphold the same standards in those you manage.

### **Terms and conditions.**

The contract will provide inter alia for:

- a salary of Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Eastern Caribbean Dollars per annum (EC\$240,000.00) plus 15% gratuity at end of contract. The starting salary is subject to change depending on the experience of the successful applicant;
- if applicable, a relocation grant and economy air travel for the successful applicant and dependant family members at the beginning and end of contract;
- if applicable, a housing allowance of Three Thousand Five Hundred Eastern Caribbean Dollars per month (EC\$3,500);
- a car and mobile phone subsidy;
- fixed term contract of 2 years with the possibility of extension.

### **Next steps**

Application Forms should only be submitted online via the government website at [www.gov.ai](http://www.gov.ai) or <https://www.besthrcloud.com/hrcloud/Recruitment005.nsf>. Full job descriptions (including details of duties and qualifications) can also be found online, attached to the vacant position OR visit our Facebook page @PublicAdminAXA.

Please note that in addition to the completed form (that will be submitted online) applicants are required to forward (simultaneously) certified copies of qualification documents, three testimonials, covering past and present employment setting out your suitability for the role and a valid police record.

Kindly scan and forward these attachments/documents, via email, to Hon. Perin A. Bradley, at [perin.bradley@gov.ai](mailto:perin.bradley@gov.ai), copied to Mr. Larry Franklin at [larry.franklin@gov.ai](mailto:larry.franklin@gov.ai) and Mr Lewis-Ames at [Orlando.Ames-Lewis@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Orlando.Ames-Lewis@fcdo.gov.uk). The completed form along with supporting documentation should be returned on or before **Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Applicants may be asked to present a pre-prepared presentation at interview and/or answer a question based on a legal scenario given shortly before the interview.

The successful candidate will be expected to take up the position by early **July 2024**.