



Village Attorney

The Village of Oak Park (pop: 54,500) is a vibrant, welcoming community with historic architecture and vintage homes blended with the convenience of modern amenities. Located in Cook County, Illinois, nine miles west of downtown Chicago, the Village of Oak Park offers a distinctive urban/suburban lifestyle in a thriving, multi-cultural community.

The Community



Core Values

- **Community:** Authentic, holistic engagement with our diverse community.
- **Connection:** Organizational learning, teamwork, collaboration, and communication that drive connection and innovation.
- **Service:** Service excellence with integrity, accountability, and fiscal stewardship.
- **Respect:** Commitment to respect for everyone in our workplace and community.
- **Results:** Shared vision of Oak Park, making a lasting difference in our community.

Well known for progressive values, tree-lined streets, and bustling business districts, Oak Park serves as an ideal place to live, work and play. The Village benefits from convenient access to local and regional transit, high-quality public schools, and arts and cultural attractions including Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio and his acclaimed Unity Temple, which was recently designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Oak Park is intentionally and proudly diverse in race, religion, ethnicity, age, income level, and lifestyle. The Village is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion principles that welcome, respect, and encourage the contributions of all its community members. With a tradition of citizen involvement and accessible and supportive local government, the Village invites active participation in decisions that affect community members' lives, families, and way of life.

[Learn more about the Village of Oak Park](#)

The Department

The Law Department serves as counsel to the Village Manager, administrative staff, the Village Board and other Village commissions and committees. With a team of two Assistant Village Attorneys, a paralegal, and an office coordinator, the Law Department provides legal guidance on complex municipal matters, directs the Village legal strategy, oversees litigation and prosecution, and helps ensure the Village operations and policies comply with applicable federal, state and local law.

The Organization

The Village of Oak Park was incorporated in 1902 and operates under the council/manager form of government. The legislative body consists of the Village President and a Board of six Trustees, all elected on an at-large basis with overlapping four-year terms. The Village Manager is responsible for all day-to-day operations and ensures the effective, efficient, and responsive delivery of quality governmental services.



The Village Attorney

As a home rule community with a broad range of complex legal matters, Oak Park offers an experienced municipal attorney the opportunity to serve as chief legal advisor to executive leadership and elected officials while leading an established in-house legal operation. The Village Attorney leads, manages and develops the Law Department, including staff, priorities, workload, budget and service delivery, provides counsel on ordinances, resolutions, contracts and agreements, litigation, prosecution, regulatory matters, and other complex legal issues, coordinates and drafts ordinances, resolutions, agreements, and other legal documents for consideration by the Village Board, represents and protects the Village's interests in litigation and other legal proceedings, and advises stakeholders on sensitive, complex, and sometimes controversial matters with clear, practical and legally sound guidance.

The Village last employed an in-house Village Attorney in 2024, and has utilized a private firm to provide corporation counsel since August of 2024.





Desired Capabilities

The ideal Village Attorney is more than just an excellent municipal lawyer. The Village is seeking a candidate who can operate effectively at the intersection of law, governance, politics, administration and community expectations. Key competencies include:

- **Legal Judgment & Expertise**

Brings broad municipal law expertise and sound judgment, providing legally rigorous advice on complex, sensitive, and high-impact matters.

- **Strategic & Practical Counsel**

Translates legal requirements into clear, workable options that help the Village accomplish its goals while appropriately managing legal and organizational risk.

- **Executive & Board Partnership**

Serves as a trusted, objective advisor to the Village Manager, Village President, and Board of Trustees while respecting the distinct roles of elected officials and professional staff.

- **Leadership & Talent Development**

Leads a high-performing Law Department by setting priorities, developing staff, effectively allocating resources, and fostering collaboration and accountability.

- **Communication & Emotional Intelligence**

Communicates complex legal issues clearly and candidly, navigates disagreement constructively, and remains composed and credible in sensitive or controversial situations.

- **Public Service & Community Orientation**

Understands the unique responsibilities of municipal government and approaches legal counsel with an appreciation for transparency, equity, community expectations, and public trust.



Compensation & Benefits

Oak Park Village offers a market-competitive total compensation package that includes a base salary range of \$162,375 to \$242,668 (DOQ/E) and a comprehensive benefit package including participation in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), health, dental, vision and life insurance, vacation, sick leave, and flexible working arrangements. Residency within Oak Park or within reasonable commuting distance is desired. Relocation assistance available.

Education and Experience

A Juris Doctor (JD) degree from an accredited law school is required in addition to license to practice law in the State of Illinois. Candidates must have at least 7 years of progressively responsible experience in municipal or related government law, including trial experience, and Demonstrated leadership experience, including experience supervising attorneys and professional staff, establishing priorities, developing staff, managing competing demands, and providing sound legal counsel in a complex public-sector environment.

Application and Selection Process

This announcement will remain posted until filled. First review of applicants will occur on September 23, 2026.

[Click here to Apply!](#)

The Village of Oak Park is working with LocalGov Staffing Solutions, LLC to fill this important role. For questions regarding the position or process, please contact: Laurie Pederson, President: laurie.pederson@localgovstaffing.com

[View full job description here.](#)

The Village of Oak Park is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Village of Oak Park commits itself to diversity, equity, and inclusion by recognizing that creating a respectful, multicultural, and equitable environment must be intentional. Equal opportunity is provided regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ability, veteran status, or any other protected characteristic.