



Homeland Security

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
HONORS ATTORNEY PROGRAM
AND
SUMMER LAW INTERN PROGRAM
for 2011



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Eligibility Requirements

- Open only to **U.S. citizens**
 - Does *not* include lawful permanent residents
- Must obtain and hold a security clearance
- Honors Attorney Program:
 - 3Ls
 - Those enrolled in a graduate law program or participating in a judicial clerkship (if began within 9 months of graduating of law school)
- Summer Law Intern Program:
 - 1Ls, 2Ls
 - Certain 3Ls (if enrolled in 4-year night program or a combined JD and other graduate program, *e.g.*, JD/MBA, JD/MPH)



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Nicholas D. Gray

Assistant General Counsel for Litigation

- B.S., Cornell University ('01)
- J.D., Stanford Law School ('04)
- Private Practice, Boston ('04-'07)
 - Commercial Litigation—Financial securities, appellate, land use
- Joined DHS / OGC in February 2007
 - Civil Litigation, Constitutional Law, Statutory Interpretation



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Our Client

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

One Team, One Mission: Securing the Homeland



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U.S. Department of Homeland Security

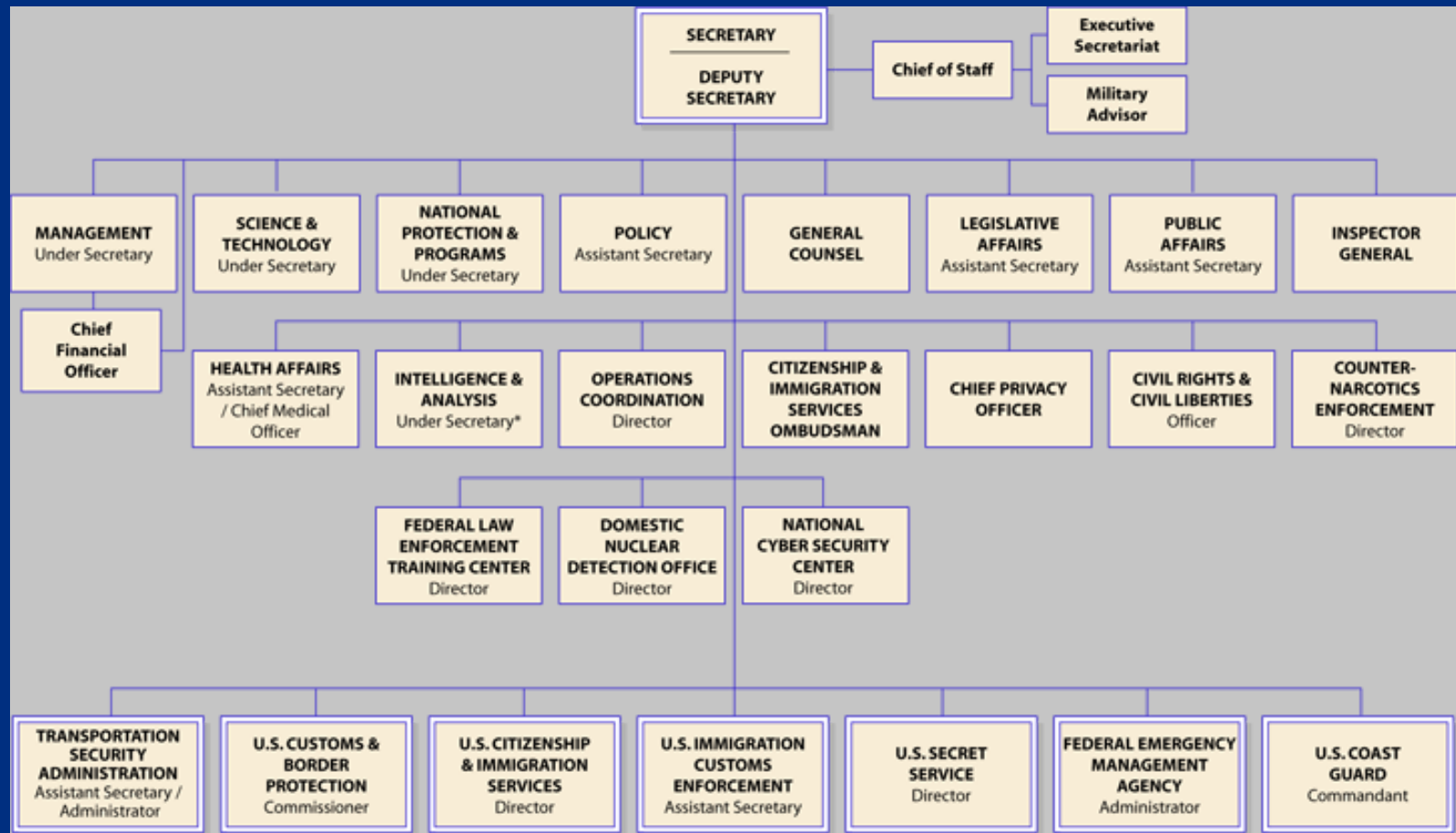
www.dhs.gov

- 15th and Newest Cabinet Department
- Created by Consolidating Over 30 Programs and Agencies from Across the Federal Government
 - Third Largest Cabinet Department
 - Over 220,000 Employees Worldwide
 - Operational Focus
 - Diverse Responsibilities and Subject Matters
 - Over 1,800 Attorneys



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U.S. Department of Homeland Security



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DHS Components

- Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- U.S. Secret Service (USSS)
- U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)



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Transportation Security Administration

- Commonly known for airport security (*e.g.*, screeners, Federal Air Marshals)
- Also play a vital role in rail, port, bus, and trucking security



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U.S. Coast Guard

- Search and Rescue Missions
- Maritime Policing / Patrol Coastal Waters
- Maritime Regulation



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U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- Police the movement of people and goods across the country's international boundaries
 - Air, land, and marine borders
- Enforce and collect customs fees, duties, and tariffs



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U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement

- Investigate criminal violations of immigration and customs laws
 - *e.g.*, counterfeit goods; smuggling (weapons, drugs, currency)
- Arrest, detain, and remove aliens in the United States without legal status



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Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Primary Federal response agency for natural and other disasters
 - Coordinate with state and local emergency response organizations
- Facilitate preparedness through grants, training, exercises, and other activities
- Insurance and mitigation programs (*e.g.*, National Flood Insurance Program)



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U.S. Secret Service

- Protect national leaders, visiting heads of state / government, designated sites, and National Special Security Events
- Protect the nation's financial infrastructure
 - Counterfeit currency, financial payment systems



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U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services

- Adjudicate applications for immigration benefits
 - Employment and family-based immigration petitions
 - Applications for lawful permanent residence and U.S. citizenship
- Administration of humanitarian programs
 - Asylum and refugee programs
 - Temporary protected status



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Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

- Train Federal officers and agents from more than eighty different Federal agencies
- Conduct more than 400 specialized training programs
- Provide training for state, local, tribal and international officers.



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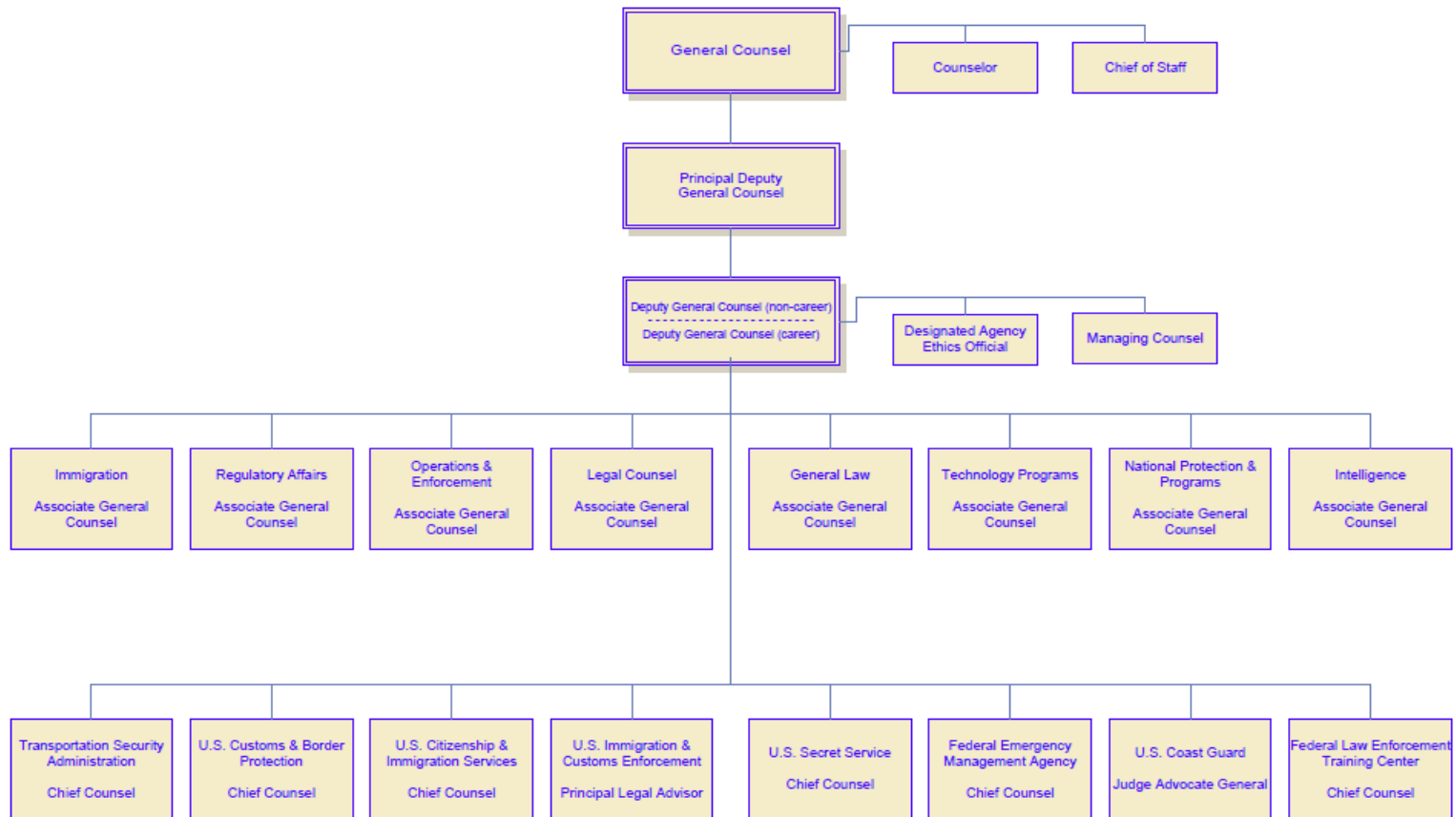
(Selected) DHS HQ Offices

- National Protections & Programs Directorate
 - Cyber Security
 - Chemical Facility Security
- Office of Health Affairs
- Office of Intelligence and Analysis
- Science & Technology Directorate
- “Business of Government” Offices
 - *e.g.*, Management, Public Affairs, Legislative Affairs



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Office of the General Counsel



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Office of the General Counsel

- Component Counsel Offices
- DHS / HQ Legal Divisions
 - Immigration
 - Regulatory Affairs
 - Operations & Enforcement
 - Legal Counsel
 - General Law
 - Technology Programs
 - National Protection & Programs
 - Intelligence



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Honors Program

- Cornerstone of entry-level attorney hiring for DHS
- Hired for a two-year rotational assignment
 - 3 eight-month rotations
- Work at multiple legal offices within the Office of the General Counsel (all in DC metro area)
- Address some of the most critical and challenging issues facing our nation today
- Honors Program attorneys with satisfactory performance ratings will ordinarily be offered full-time positions at the end of the two-year rotation, subject to DHS needs and funding



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Honors Program

Salaries

(2010 Rates for Washington, D.C.)

- Normal Starting Salary at GS-11/01 (\$62,467)
- One year of post-law school judicial clerkship experience *or*
Advanced law degrees with one year of post-law school full-time graduate law study (LLM or equivalent)
 - Start at GS-12/01 level (\$74,872)
- Two or three years of judicial clerkship experience *or*
Combination of two or three years of post-law school judicial clerkships and graduate law degree
 - May be considered for GS-13/01 (\$89,033) at DHS discretion



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Honors Program

Salaries

- Attorney promotions generally are performance-based, and are subject to time-in-grade requirements
- Meeting the minimum time-in-grade requirement does not automatically entitle an attorney to a promotion



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Recent Work Assignments for Honors Attorneys

- **Oil Spill Response Efforts:** assisted in developing proposals for the long-term management of the recovery in the Gulf
- **Earthquake in Haiti:** assisted DHS' Haitian temporary protected status taskforce; determined admission eligibility categories for Haitian orphans
- **Airport Security:** advised senior TSA officials on matters associated with the issuance and revocation of FAA and airport credentials
- **Immigration Issues:**
 - served as a member of DHS legal team in the Arizona SB 1070 litigation
 - represented DHS in an immigration case before the Immigration Court
 - analyzed DHS detention authority for aliens and participated in a working group from DHS on detention matters



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Recent Work Assignments for Honors Attorneys

- **Security at Foreign Ports:** wrote and edited legislative proposals on procedures for assessing security at foreign ports
- **Counterterrorism Authority:** provided an overview of the responsibilities of various federal agencies in the area of counterterrorism
- **Southern Border Fence:** assisted in representing DHS on an inter-agency litigation task force involved with condemnation cases along the southwest border of the U.S., including working with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CBP, DOJ and private land owners



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Summer Law Intern Program

- Hired to work in the Office of the General Counsel (HQ) in Washington, D.C.
- Will have the opportunity to work with two or more of the different legal divisions in our office
- Will gain valuable legal experience and substantial individual responsibility



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Summer Law Intern Program

Salaries

(2010 Rates for Washington, D.C.)

- GS-9/01: \$51,630 (2Ls)
- GS-7/01: \$42,209 (1Ls)
- Pro-rated for intern period



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Honors Attorney Program

Summer Law Intern Program

Both programs include tours of DHS facilities and other Washington, D.C. institutions, including:

- U.S. Secret Service Training Facility
- Dulles Airport CBP Port-of-Entry
- Dulles Airport TSA Security Stations
- DHS Forensic Document Laboratory
- U.S. Coast Guard Air Station at Reagan National Airport
- U.S. Supreme Court
- Department of State
- U.S. Capitol



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Application Information

- Application period for both programs is from **August 16, 2010** to **October 15, 2010**
- Send Cover Letter, Resume, References, and Unofficial Transcript to:
OGCStaffing@dhs.gov



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For More Information

www.dhs.gov/ogc



The screenshot shows the official website of the Department of Homeland Security, specifically the Office of the General Counsel. The header includes the DHS logo, the text 'Homeland Security', and a navigation bar with links: Home, Counterterrorism, Border Security, Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Immigration, Unified DHS, and About. A photo of Carl, Team Lead of Infrastructure Protection, is in the top right. A left sidebar lists various departmental topics. The main content area is titled 'Office of the General Counsel' and includes an 'Overview' section with text about the office's size and the role of the general counsel, Ivan K. Fong. A red circle highlights the 'Legal Careers at Homeland Security' section on the right, which features an image of a classical building and text about career opportunities for law students and attorneys. Below this, a 'More from Homeland Security' section is partially visible.

Homeland Security

Home Counterterrorism Border Security Preparedness, Response, Recovery Immigration Unified DHS About

Carl
Team Lead,
Office of Infrastructure
Protection

About the Department
Strategic Plan
Budget and Finance
Department Structure
Organization Chart
Leadership
Laws and Regulations
International
History
Careers
Compliance Issues

Office of the General Counsel

- [Overview](#)
- [Organization](#)
- [Contact](#)

Overview

The Office of the General Counsel comprises all lawyers within the Department of Homeland Security—over 1,750 dedicated attorneys at headquarters and at operating components.

The general counsel for the Department is [Ivan K. Fong](#). Mr. Fong was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and sworn in as general counsel of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in May 2009.

The Homeland Security Act defines the general counsel as the "chief legal officer of the Department." In this role, he is ultimately responsible for all of the Department's legal determinations and for overseeing all of its attorneys. The general counsel is also the Department's regulatory policy officer, managing the rulemaking program and ensuring that all Department of Homeland Security regulatory actions comply with relevant statutes and executive orders.

The Office of the General Counsel's central tasks include:

- providing complete, accurate, and timely legal advice on possible courses of action for the Department;
- ensuring that Homeland Security policies are implemented lawfully, quickly, and efficiently;
- protecting the rights and liberties of any Americans who come into contact with the Department;
- facilitating quick responses to congressional requests for information; and

Legal Careers at Homeland Security

Law students and lawyers from the public sector and private practice are urged to explore employment opportunities with the Office of the General Counsel. These opportunities include career positions for attorneys at headquarters and at component agencies, an Honors Attorney Program for entry level attorneys, and legal internships and externships for law students. View Office of the General Counsel career opportunities at headquarters and component agencies.

More from Homeland Security

Laws and Regulations



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For More Information

Craig Raynsford

Craig.Raynsford1@dhs.gov



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Why Government Work?

- More responsibility sooner
- Cutting-edge legal issues
- Opportunity to directly impact your government, your country, and your world
- Work on what interests you



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Why Government Work?

- Work / life balance
- Good salaries and benefits
- Stability
- Career advancement



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Why DHS?

- Vital mission
- Flat organization
- Fast-paced environment
- High-profile legal issues



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Some Examples

- Gulf Oil Spill
- Christmas Day Bombing Attempt
- Arizona SB 1070
- Haiti Earthquake
- Mexican Drug War



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What are Some Typical Duties?

- Draft memos to the Solicitor General seeking further review
- Review and edit briefs prepared by Department of Justice
- Discuss litigation strategy with AUSAs / DOJ trial lawyers
- Participate in moot courts for upcoming arguments
- Evaluate litigation risks with proposed agency action
- Draft talking points for Office of Public Affairs
- Brief the General Counsel and senior officials about litigation
- Prepare declarations for Department officials



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Some Case Examples

- *Chamber of Commerce of the USA, et al. v. Whiting, et al.*, Case No. 09-115 (US)
- *Latif, et al. v. Dep't of Justice, et al.*, Case No. 3:10-cv-750-BR (D. Ore.)
- *Abidor, et al. v. Napolitano, et al.*, Case No. 1:10-cv-4059-DGT (E.D.N.Y.)



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- Send Questions to: **Craig.Raynsford1@dhs.gov**



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Thank you



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