

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Lea County, New Mexico (Pop. 65,000)

Salary \$104,000 - \$160,000 (DOQ)

Summary: Lea County is located in southeastern New Mexico. The City of Lovington (pop. 11,009) is the County seat. Nearby cities are Carlsbad (pop. 26,697), Artesia (pop. 11,301), Hobbs (pop. 35,007), and Roswell (pop. 48,477). The County was established in 1917. The County is comprised of 4,393 square miles of wide open spaces, and is one of the state's leading producers of oil and gas.

The County has a Commission-Manager form of government. The County Commission consists of five members elected to four-year staggered terms. The Commission appoints the County Manager. With the exception of those employees appointed by the elected officials, all other employees are appointed by the County Manager. The City has approximately 332 full-time employees. The County provides a full range of services including public utilities public works, recreational services, planning, general administrative services, fire protection, building, code enforcement, zoning and public safety.

Lea County is seeking candidates to serve as the County's in-house attorney and chief legal advisor to the County Commission, County Manager, all County departments, and all appointed boards and commissions. The County Attorney will provide a full range of legal services including litigation and transactional services, as well as managing outside special counsel as needed. The salary range is posted above. The starting salary will be dependent upon qualifications.

Fringe Benefits. Excellent fringe benefit package includes a great retirement plan (employee contributes 5.325%, county contributes 14.475%); Group health/dental/vision/ and life insurance plan (employee contributes only 5%, county contributes 95%); 13.5 paid holidays; and generous vacation and sick leave benefits. The County will provide a vehicle for the County Attorney, and pays 95% of fringe benefits for the employee and family.

Job Requirements: Graduation from an accredited college of law and a license to practice law in the State of New Mexico is required, along with a minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible legal experience. An out of state licensed attorney must show that he/she will be able to acquire a license to practice law in New Mexico. Priority will be given to those who have demonstrated experience in the public sector and local government law; experience in risk management, employment law, land use, contracts, eminent domain, public records and open meetings law is a plus.

Special Instructions: Visit our website at www.mercergroupinc.com and review the online recruitment profile and job description for information about this position. Additional questions may be directed to Mr. Gustavo "Gus" Cordova, Senior Vice President, Mercer Group Inc., at (575-779-5044) or by email at gcordova@mercergroupinc.com. Lea County is an Equal Opportunity/ADA Employer. Pursuant to New Mexico's open records law, applications and resumes are subject to disclosure.

Please email a copy of your resume, along with a letter of interest to gcordova@mercergroupinc.com. The deadline for applications is September 25, 2014.

[Click here for a copy of the Position Profile](#)