



GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
1600 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1600

SEP 20 2012

GENERAL COUNSEL

Dear Law Student:

I write to encourage you to apply to the summer internship program in the Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

As General Counsel of the Defense Department, I advise the Secretary of Defense and other senior leaders on the most interesting and complex national security legal issues that our government faces. Our summer interns contribute substantively to this interesting and important work, and gain exposure to a wide range of issues in national security law and defense. I take a great personal interest in ensuring that the internship program is worthwhile, as do my Deputies.

As just a few examples of our work, my office reviews and provides legal approval on military operations, oversees the military commissions process, and provides legal advice on religious accommodation in the military, the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," changes to the combat exclusion policy for women, defense acquisition, arms control agreements, military justice, civilian ethics, and the potential impact of sequestration. As an intern in my office, you will have the opportunity to work on these and other issues.

You will also have the opportunity to work with some of the best lawyers in the Department of Defense and in the national security elements of our government. We will assign you a primary mentor, and introduce you to attorneys from other offices within the Department. Every week this past summer, one or more of my Deputies devoted two hours to a lunch with the interns to brief the class on the nature of the legal issues they wrestle with every day, and to take questions. We encourage this type of engagement within OGC, with other lawyers throughout the Department. In addition, our office plans visits to off-site locations to maximize your exposure not only to the military and the Department of Defense, but also to other federal agencies and branches of government.

I know the choice you must make between a summer experience in the private and public sectors. I have spent much of my legal career as an associate and then partner in a large New York law firm, but on three separate occasions have left the firm to serve in government. My time in public service has been invaluable, both personally and professionally. Even if you intend to ultimately pursue a law firm career, I encourage you to gain exposure to public service in Washington. Please consider joining us. Additional information about the summer internship program in my office is available on our website, <http://www.dod.gc/dodgc/contact.html>. You may also contact Ms. Christine Haynes by phone at (703) 571-2668, or by e-mail at [summerlawinterns@osd.mil](mailto:summerlawinterns@osd.mil).

Sincerely,

Jeh Charles Johnson

