

TO: ALBANY LAW CLINIC & JUSTICE CENTER
FIELD PLACEMENT CLINIC
FAX: 518-434-8612

PLACEMENT NAME: Office of the NYS Attorney General - Real Property Bureau

PLACEMENT ADDRESS: __146 State Street, Albany, New York, 12224

PHONE: (518) 474-8625 FAX: (518) 474-0862

SUPERVISING ATTORNEYS: Donald Shehigian, Principal Attorney & Peter Sparagna, Associate Attorney

1) A brief statement about your office generally (e.g., mission, jurisdiction, size, nature of practice, etc.)

The primary mission of the Real Property Bureau is to handle all legal matters concerning acquisitions of real property by New York State's agencies and litigation involving such real property. The bureau has more than twenty title and litigation attorneys who determine the ownership of lands taken by eminent domain and acquired through purchase and who defend the State in the Court of Claims at actions and proceedings brought pursuant to the Eminent Domain Procedure Law. The bureau also defends the State in other real property matters such as mortgage foreclosures, actions to quiet title and in both defensive and affirmative summary proceedings.

2) A description of the experiences law students are likely to have at your office, including the types tasks a student may perform.

Law students will conduct legal research on real property matters, draft pleadings, motions and other legal documents and will, on occasion, accompany bureau attorneys to court for trials, conferences and hearings.

3) Any special requirements you have for student selection (e.g., writing sample, class standing, experience, third year students only, background check, etc.)

It is preferred that students be in their second or third year and that they have an interest in real property and eminent domain issues.

4) Website for further information
www.oag.state.ny.us/bureaus/real_property/about.html

5) Anything else that you think would be helpful or informative.

Law interns will be exposed to a wide array of real property and civil procedure issues that will be useful to them if they choose to practice law in either the governmental or private sector.

6) Resumes or experience for attorneys who will directly supervise our students. (We ask that supervising attorneys/mentors have at least three years experience.)

Donald Shehigian: 31 years practicing law in the Real Property Bureau and the Claims Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General – currently section chief of the Real Property Litigation Unit of the Real Property Bureau.

Peter Sparagna: 31 years practicing law in the Real Property Bureau and Civil Recoveries Bureau of the OAG and in the private sector – currently an Associate Attorney in the Real Property Litigation Unit of the RPB.