



COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney's Office

Annual Salary:

\$296,524 to \$384,944 DOE/DOQ

Wake County, North Carolina



Are you a strategic, service-driven legal leader who can navigate complex legal matters while providing trusted counsel to elected officials and County leadership? If so, apply to be Wake County's next County Attorney!

We're looking for an exceptional legal executive who is:

- Experienced in local government law, litigation, risk management, and contract negotiation
- Skilled at advising elected and appointed boards on complex legal and policy matters
- A collaborative leader with sound judgment, integrity, and exceptional communication skills

Passionate. Proactive. Purposeful. – read on to learn more about this opportunity!

Executive Recruitment Provided by

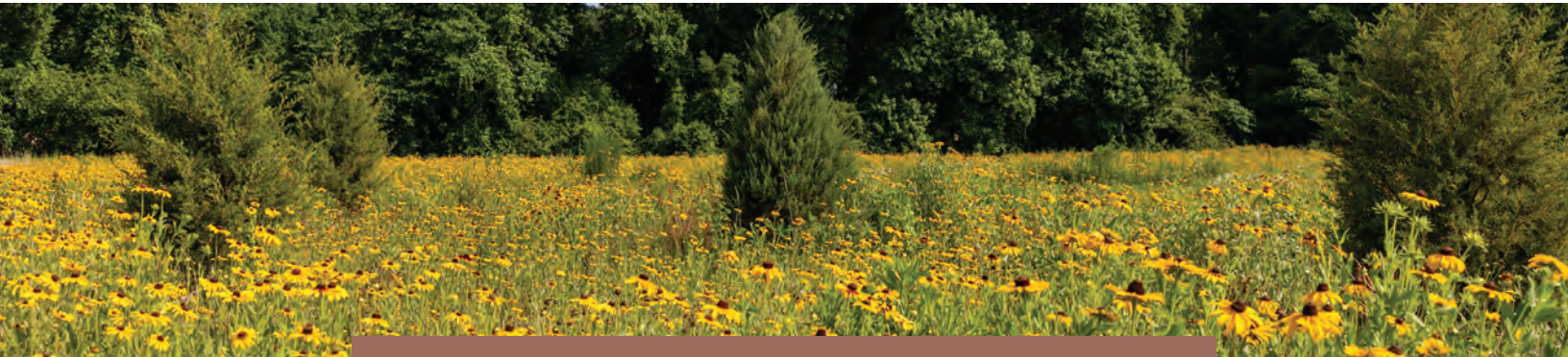


ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Wake County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the United States, offering a strong economy, exceptional public services, and an outstanding quality of life. Located in the heart of North Carolina’s Research Triangle, the County is home to Raleigh and 11 other municipalities and combines the amenities of a major metropolitan area with the character and comfort of diverse suburban and community settings.

Residents enjoy access to top-rated schools, world-class healthcare, abundant parks and greenways, outdoor recreation, and a thriving arts and cultural scene. Wake County’s location within the Research Triangle also places residents near major universities, research institutions, innovative employers, and a dynamic regional economy. The County is nationally recognized for its public school system and commitment to innovative public service.

Wake County continues to experience substantial growth. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates its population at 1,257,235 as of July 1, 2025, an increase of 11.3% from the 2020 estimates base. Educational attainment is also high, with 57.2% of residents age 25 and older holding a bachelor’s degree or higher.



POPULATION
1,257,235



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
\$105,768



MEDIAN HOME VALUE
\$461,300
AVERAGE MONTHLY RENT
\$1, 623

GOVERNANCE & ORGANIZATION

Wake County operates under a Commissioner-Manager form of government. The Board of Commissioners consists of members elected by district to staggered four-year terms. The County provides a comprehensive range of services to its growing population and is supported by more than 5,000 employees.

The County provides a full range of services including:

- Health & Human Services
- Environmental and Community Services
- Public Safety
- General Government Administration

The FY2027 recommended budget totals approximately \$2.282 billion, reflecting significant investments in County operations, education, infrastructure, public safety, and community services.



ABOUT THE JOB

The County Attorney's Office advises County officials and departments on legal matters and represents Wake County in court and legal negotiations. The Office provides counsel concerning statutes, rules, regulations, court interpretations, policies, procedures, and County actions while advising all elected and appointed Wake County boards.

Serving as chief legal counsel to the Board of Commissioners, the new County Attorney will:

- Provide direct legal representation to the Board of Commissioners and County agencies
- Represent the County in federal and state courts, including litigation, tort defense, appellate matters, and other proceedings
- Lead contract negotiation and review and provide strategic legal counsel
- Oversee in-house legal and administrative staff and risk management responsibilities
- Advise County leadership regarding ordinances, policies, regulations, compliance, and evolving local government law
- Provide high-level legal guidance that supports County operations and strategic priorities

The position serves as an appointed executive leadership role and requires close collaboration with elected officials, County leadership, departments, and external partners.

[Full Job Description](#)



DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE

Divisions within the department:

- General Legal Services
- Risk Management
- Child Protective Legal Services

DEPARTMENT QUICKFACTS



EMPLOYEES

27 FTEs



FY2027 ADOPTED
DEPARTMENT BUDGET

~\$6 MILLION

KEY PROJECTS FOR 2026/2027

- Address significant property tax appeals arising from the previous revaluation cycle, including management of additional contracted legal services.
- Integrate a new Tax Attorney who will serve as the central point of contact for tax-related legal matters.
- Expand the County's Risk Management Team through the addition of a new Risk Manager position.
- Support the transition of County-wide risk management costs into the new Risk Management Fund beginning in FY2027.
- Continue providing strategic legal counsel on complex County operations, litigation, contracts, governance, compliance, and emerging legal issues.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished legal executive with extensive knowledge of public-sector and local government law and the judgment necessary to serve as a trusted advisor to elected officials and senior leadership. This individual will be comfortable navigating complex litigation, risk management, contracts, regulatory requirements, and sensitive policy matters while maintaining the highest ethical and professional standards.

The successful candidate will be an exceptional communicator and relationship builder who can translate complicated legal issues into practical guidance for decision-makers. They will demonstrate integrity, sound judgment, strong analytical abilities, and the capacity to manage competing priorities in a dynamic organization. A collaborative leadership style will be essential, along with the ability to effectively lead legal and administrative professionals, build trust across County departments, and work constructively with diverse internal and external stakeholders.



EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

Required:

- Juris Doctorate from an accredited school of law
- Active North Carolina Bar License
- Equivalent education and experience substitutions are not accepted

Preferred:

- 20 years of professional legal experience as an attorney
- 10 years of experience working across various areas of law
- 12 years of substantial knowledge of constitutional, federal, state, and local laws affecting municipal government
- 12 years of experience advising and representing administrative and quasi-judicial boards and commissions

SALARY & BENEFITS

- **Compensation:** \$296,524 to \$384,944 DOE/DOQ
- **Health Benefits:** Comprehensive medical, dental, and vision coverage; life and AD&D insurance
- **Paid Leave:** Vacation, sick leave, parental, bereavement, and community involvement leave
- **Retirement:** Participation in the North Carolina Local Government Employees' Retirement System (LERS), along with a County-funded 5% 401(k) contribution with no employee match required
- **Additional Perks:** On-site parking, employee wellness center, cell phone or allowance, and relocation assistance offered on a case-by-case basis
- Wake County participates in **Social Security**.



HOW TO APPLY

Apply Here



For more information on this position, contact:

Michael D. Mallinoff, Esq., Senior Vice President, Executive Recruitment

mdmallinoff@GovernmentResource.com | 443-336-5772

Wake County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in its workforce. Applicants selected as finalists will undergo a comprehensive background check.