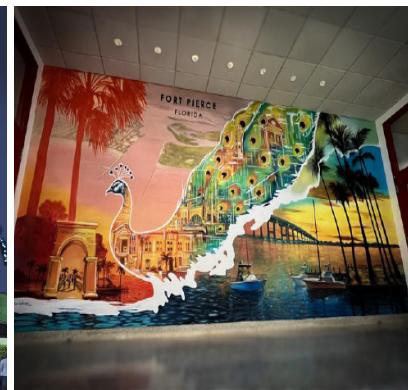




CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FL
INVITES YOUR INTEREST IN THE POSITION OF
CITY ATTORNEY

THE COMMUNITY

The City of Fort Pierce (approximately 50,550 residents) is a beautiful, historic, waterfront community situated along Florida's southeastern Atlantic Coast, in the heart of the Treasure Coast. Known as "The Sunrise City," Fort Pierce has a small-town atmosphere, miles of pristine shoreline, an ideal year-round climate, and proximity to several world-class destinations, including Palm Beach, Orlando, Tampa, and Miami, all just a two-hour drive away.

The City has a unique blend of old Florida within a rapidly growing area of the state, with all the amenities, attractions, and adventures needed for an exceptional quality of life. The city encompasses approximately 31 square miles and is a diverse, neighborly community with fascinating research centers and museums, excellent community services, and a wealth of cultural and recreational attractions.

Fort Pierce, incorporated in 1901, is the county seat of St. Lucie County and includes 2.3 miles of public beach, a historic waterfront downtown, a quaint fishing village, a marina, many acres of parks, and the popular Sunrise Theatre for the Performing Arts. Downtown attractions include shopping, dining, entertainment, and a city marina. Fort Pierce is renowned for its exceptional boating and fishing opportunities.

Fort Pierce is located on the pristine, biodiverse Indian River Lagoon. The Fort Pierce Inlet, which connects the Lagoon with the Atlantic Ocean, is one of the best all-weather inlets in the state of Florida. The Port of Fort Pierce is one of Florida's 14 deepwater ports and is set to be a hub for mega yacht repair and retrofit operations.

Fort Pierce is home to Indian River State College, which has earned national recognition for its excellence and affordability, offering over 100 programs. The Lawnwood Regional Medical Center hosts the region's only Level II trauma center. The area economy has evolved into a blend of diverse sectors, including manufacturing, professional services, headquarters, marine, aviation, life sciences, aquaculture, and distribution/logistics.



THE ORGANIZATION

The City of Fort Pierce has a commission-manager form of government. The Mayor and four Commissioners are elected to nonpartisan, four-year terms.

The City's mission is to provide community leadership, quality public service, and a safe environment for all citizens by an empowered team of employees motivated by pride in themselves and their work.

The Commission establishes policy by enacting ordinances, resolutions, and motions. The Commission approves the budget, determines tax rates, and focuses on the community's goals, major projects, and long-term considerations, including community growth, capital improvement plans, and strategic planning.

The Commission appoints the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, and City Auditor as Charter Officers. The City is a full-service municipality with over 15 Departments, which include unique services such as the Golf Course, Marina, and Sunrise Theater. The City has 472 FTEs and a recommended FY2026 General Fund Budget of \$67.7 million, with a Capital Fund Budget of \$1.1 million.

THE POSITION

The City Attorney is a Charter Officer appointed by and reporting directly to the Mayor and City Commission. Pursuant to the City Charter, the City Attorney serves as legal advisor to, and counsel for, the City and all of its officers in matters relating to their official duties.

The mission of the Office of the City Attorney is to safeguard the legal, ethical, and financial integrity of the City of Fort Pierce. The City Attorney represents the City before all levels of state and federal courts, and the Office reviews all City contracts and agreements for approval as to legal form and correctness. The City Attorney has the discretion to delegate legal matters to private attorneys as appropriate.

As established by the City Charter, the functions of the City Attorney include:

- Attending all meetings of the City Commission, unless otherwise excused.
- Reviewing all contracts, bonds, and other written instruments in which the City is concerned, endorsing on each approval of the form and correctness thereof.
- Prosecuting and defending, for and on behalf of the City, all complaints, suits, and controversies in which the City is a party, when requested by the City Manager or the City Commission.
- Furnishing the City Commission, City Manager, department heads, or any officer or board within a department, an opinion on any question of law relating to their respective offices and duties.

Duties and responsibilities of the City Attorney include:

- Performs and oversees legal staff in the research of legal questions, preparation of resolutions, issuance of briefs and legal documents, representation of the City in civil lawsuits, and rendering of legal opinions.
- Directs and reviews the work of staff counsel through conferences, review of documents, and evaluation of results obtained.
- Gathers evidence in civil, criminal, and other cases to formulate defense or initiate legal action; prepares legal briefs and develops strategy, arguments, and testimony for case presentation.
- Works with the Police Department and other City departments to enforce Florida laws and statutes within the City.
- Advises the City Commission and City officials on matters involving internal affairs and public relations; interprets laws, rulings, and regulations for the Commission and City officials.
- Participates in and supervises contract negotiations, administrative review, legislation, and litigation; drafts special legislative acts and legal documents.
- Represents the City in court and before quasi-judicial or administrative agencies of government.
- Provides written and oral legal opinions, advice, and guidance to the City Commission, City Manager, and City departments.
- Manages subordinate supervisors and staff, including interviewing, hiring, training, planning and directing work, and performance evaluation.
- Performs related duties as assigned.



THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate for City Attorney is a seasoned, ethical municipal law practitioner who is a trusted advisor to the City Commission, City Manager, and City departments. The City Attorney will be professional, responsive, and collaborative, building strong working relationships across the organization while providing sound, practical legal counsel.

The City seeks a proven leader with extensive knowledge of the statutory and constitutional law of the State of Florida as it applies to municipal government, thorough knowledge of judicial procedure and effective case presentation, and considerable knowledge of the principles, methods, and practices of legal research.

The selected candidate will have the ability to draft legal instruments, ordinances, resolutions, and policies; analyze and organize legal facts, evidence, and precedent; and present such material clearly and logically, both orally and in writing.

Strong interpersonal and communication skills are essential, along with the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the City Commission, City officials, employees, and the general public. Experience supervising legal staff and managing outside counsel relationships is valued. A Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from an accredited law school and licensure to practice law in Florida are required. Note that Florida does not have reciprocity with any other state.

Candidates must have at least ten (10) years of increasingly responsible experience in the management and practice of law, preferably with municipal law practice. Membership in

good standing with The Florida Bar is required. A comparable combination of training, education, and experience may be substituted for the minimum qualifications.

A valid Florida driver's license and a clean driving record are required. Fort Pierce residency is highly desired for the selected candidate.

COMPENSATION

The salary range is open; the starting salary will be dependent upon qualifications. The City values its employees and offers an excellent benefits package. Florida does not have a state income tax.

All employees are subject to being required to report to work during a declared disaster.



TO APPLY

If you are interested in this outstanding opportunity, please visit www.SRNsearch.com and apply online. The first review of resumes will take place on October 12, 2026; the position is open until filled. Resumes will be screened according to the qualifications outlined above.

Screening interviews with the most qualified applicants will be conducted by S. Renée Narloch & Associates to determine a select group of finalist candidates who will be asked to provide references; references will be contacted only following candidate consent. Final interviews will be held with the City Commission. Candidates will be notified of the recruitment status following the selection of the City Attorney. Questions regarding this recruitment should be directed to:

Ms. S. Renée Narloch, President

Mr. Elliott Pervinich, Vice President

S. Renée Narloch & Associates

info@SRNsearch.com | 850.391.0000

www.SRNsearch.com

The City of Fort Pierce is an equal-opportunity employer. In accordance with Florida's Public Records/Sunshine Laws, resumes and applications are subject to public disclosure.

