

For further information on careers at VGSO, please contact

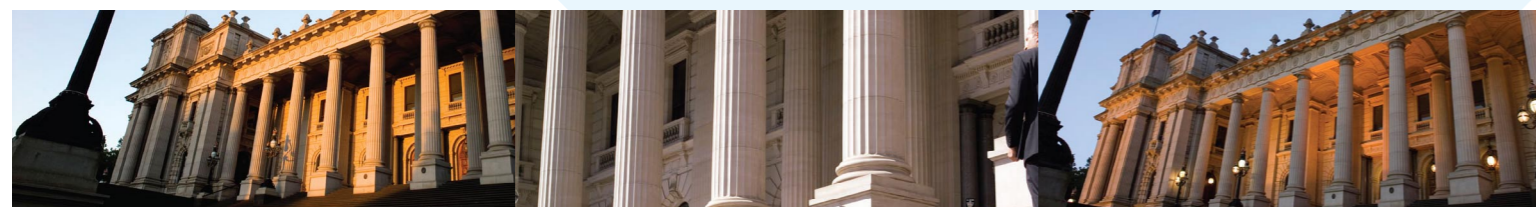
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**OUR GOAL OF PURSUING  
 EXCELLENCE IN CLIENT SERVICE  
 AND OUTCOMES TAKES PLACE IN  
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 AND MUTUAL CO-OPERATION.**”

## More than Government law

The Victorian Government Solicitor's Office reports to the Attorney-General and is the primary source of legal services to the Victorian State Government and its statutory authorities.

We have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of government law and provide both strategic advice and practical, commercial legal solutions. Our vision is to be the legal provider of choice to the State Government and our values are determined by acting both ethically and professionally. The VGSO is also a friendly place to work. Our goal of pursuing excellence in client service and outcomes takes place in an atmosphere of camaraderie and mutual co-operation.

## You'll join a firm that's going places

Over the last 12 months, we have grown our client base by 26%. Total revenue climbed by 24% over the same period. Since 2006, the number of our lawyers has increased by 28%. The VGSO has also taken additional premises at Nauru House next door to its Southern Cross headquarters, to accommodate growing staff needs.

## Challenged to be your best

If you join the VGSO, you will work on interesting, high-profile matters, with a great deal of autonomy and responsibility. Our articled clerks often comment on the high degree of client contact they obtain from day one, unlike many private law firms. For more senior lawyers there is a great sense of contribution to fascinating areas of public interest. The diversity of work and putting complex theories of law into practice builds a career path that is rewarding, thought-provoking and intellectually satisfying.

Over the last few years, the VGSO has been involved with news-breaking matters relevant to every Victorian, including constitutional issues, freedom of information work, native title and developing the Charter of Human Rights.

## Plan your career and look to the future

The VGSO's Learning & Development program is tailor-made for individual careers and allows for "learning on the job", as well as the opportunity to take professional development courses provided in-house and by institutions such as the Law Institute of Victoria and IPAA (Institute of Public Administration of Australia).

The VGSO's Traineeship program provides rotations through all main areas of practice and provides opportunities for intra-government placement. This provides a firm foundation for a rewarding career in both government and private practice.

## Join a Green, socially responsible team

The VGSO is part of the Victorian Government Department of Justice and as such complies with the DOJ's Environmental Management System (EMS), which covers the responsible use of paper, energy consumption, waste generation, water use and transport.

An Environmental Initiatives Fund has been established to support the Department of Justice's ongoing commitment to sustainability. You can get involved in identifying and implementing practical projects that will reduce the Department's environmental footprint even further.

The Office also offers pro bono opportunities for secondments at the North Melbourne Legal Centre, providing lawyers with the chance to give back to the comm

## The VGSO difference



**ANDREW SUDDICK,**  
 Managing Principal  
 Solicitor, Litigation

I've been with VGSO since 2006, having worked for a private law firm for several years. I have the chance to work with great people, interesting clients, and most of all, have fun.

The VGSO offers exciting opportunities to advise on many high-profile matters of public interest. You gain unparalleled insights into Government and Government Departments and instruct Government on significant projects. My move was also a conscious lifestyle choice: I was tired of working unreasonably long hours and not spending much time with my family. The VGSO understands the importance of work/life balance and walks the talk.



**LISA ROBINSON,**  
 Principal Solicitor,  
 Commercial & Property

I have acted as a key legal adviser to the Department of Justice in relation to government service contracts, retendering in the area of private prisons, governance issues and procurement of specialist services. With the VGSO, I'm privy to and involved in a range of key legal and policy decisions, often exposed to a wide variety of complex legal issues that arise within other practice groups. VGSO has offered me a flexible and dynamic working environment. As a parent of a young child, it is important to me to be able to work remotely and VGSO has provided not only the technology to make that possible, but a positive and supportive attitude as well.



**CHRIS WISEMAN,**  
 Senior Solicitor,  
 Administrative Law

I joined the VGSO last year after first working at VCAT and as a Judge's Associate, then in the Planning & Environment group of a large private law firm. I felt I was becoming too specialised - I wanted to get more exposure to other areas of law, greater hands-on input and client contact, more appearance work. The VGSO hasn't disappointed. I love the quality of work here and I'm currently on a part-time secondment to the Department of Planning & Community Development, which supports 12 ministerial portfolios and this stretches me even further.



**LOUISE JARRETT,**  
 Solicitor,  
 Administrative Law

I joined the VGSO as an Articled Clerk and now work as a Solicitor in the Administrative Branch. I always wanted to work in Government and on significant matters of State importance which impact on all Victorians. I have the opportunity to manage multiple legal files with an autonomy I wouldn't have in private law firms. I'm also currently undergoing a secondment at the Building Commission, which is exposing me to new areas of the law. I find the atmosphere at the VGSO nurturing, supportive and relaxed and I'm continually being encouraged to develop my skills.

