

How to Advance Your Legal Career with BCG Attorney Search

By Harrison Barnes from Los Angeles Office Managing Director

SummaryBCG Attorney Search is a legal recruitment firm that matches attorneys and law firms nationwide. The firm offers legal job counseling, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing tips, and job-search tips. In this Q&A session, BCG Attorney Search Director Corinne Jameson and BCG Attorney Search Sourcing Specialist Jill K. Huynh provide insight into the legal job market and the best strategies for legal job search success.

Attorneys can get a competitive edge by taking a proactive approach to their job search and expanding their professional network. Building relationships with recruiters and hiring teams at law firms is an excellent way to gain visibility in the legal job market. In addition, it is important for job seekers to tailor their resumes and cover letters to the positions for which they are applying.

Job-hunting attorneys should also consider alternative legal career paths, such as corporate law and government jobs. In addition, attorneys should explore the potential of working in small or mid-sized firms or starting their own practice. Finally, attorneys should invest in their personal development to stay competitive in the job market.

For job seekers in the legal industry, BCG Attorney Search offers comprehensive resources to help them increase their chances of landing their desired jobs. These include job counseling, resumes and cover letter writing, interviewing tips, and job-search tips. With the help of these services, job seekers can make sure their resumes are powerful and their career objectives are clear.

In summary, BCG Attorney Search provides legal job search insight from two of its experts - Director Corinne Jameson and Sourcing Specialist Jill K. Huynh. To be successful in the legal job market, attorneys should be proactive and build relationships with recruiters and hiring teams. They should also tailor their resumes and cover letters to the positions they are applying for and consider alternative career paths. BCG offers legal job counseling, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing tips, and job-search tips to ensure attorneys have the best chance of landing their desired job. With the right resources, legal job search success is achievable.

Understanding the Legal Profession

The legal profession has significantly changed in recent years, making it increasingly difficult for those without experience to fully understand what the role of a lawyer entails. To help provide insight into the profession, BCG Attorney Search has spoken with experienced BCG Attorney Search legal recruiter, Steve Goodenberger.

Advice for Lawyers Considering Their Career Path

Goodenberger recommends that lawyers who are considering their career paths should first consider the types of cases and areas of law that interest them most. He also suggests that lawyers think about what motivates them and how they want to make an impact in the legal world. Understanding the potential rewards and opportunities available is key to helping lawyers determine the best path for their career.

Options for Lawyers Entering the Profession

Goodenberger suggests that junior lawyers should also consider their options for entering the legal profession. He recommends looking into law firm positions, government positions, and other options. These may include clerkships, internships, or working as a paralegal in certain areas of law. Additionally, lawyers should research legal employers in the areas of law they are interested in to learn more about their offerings.

The Benefits of Working with a Recruiter

Goodenberger believes that working with a legal recruiter can help lawyers to find a great career opportunity. Legal recruiters can provide insight into the legal profession, make connections, provide advice, and offer access to a wide range of legal positions. They can also assist attorneys in drafting resumes, performing

practice area research, and preparing for interviews.

Choosing the Right Legal Recruiter

Goodenberger recommends that those looking for legal placement assistance should select an established legal recruitment firm with a successful track record. As the legal market continues to evolve, lawyers should make sure to select a legal recruitment firm that understands the complexities of the legal profession and the changing legal landscape. BCG Attorney Search is continually working to keep track of the ever-changing legal landscape, giving lawyers the best possible chance for long-term success.

Question:

I am scheduled to have a lunch meeting with a firm next Friday. This firm is known for having a casual Friday dress code (e.g. jeans, polo tops, etc.). I don't want to look overly dressed or stuffy at my interview; should I attend this interview in something more casual as well?

-H.D.

Answer:

Dear H.D.,

Thanks for your question. My general rule of thumb when it comes to [dress codes for an interview](#) is that it is always better to be overdressed vs. underdressed. Thus, even though your interviewers may be in very casual clothes, you should still probably attend your interview wearing a formal suit. Even if a recruiting coordinator tells you it is okay to dress less formally for an interview, it is always safer to go with a more formal outfit.

Remember, [you are primarily the one who is being evaluated so it is important to look your best](#). Dressing in a suit will also make you feel more professional and polished. It also shows your interviewers that you are taking their meeting seriously and that you respect their time.

In choosing a suit, be sure to pick neutral colors. [Navy blue or black are always solid choices](#). You may have a fantastic fashion flare, but an interview is not the time to display it. For men, simple yet elegant ties in traditional colors will be well-received. If you are choosing between two potential looks for an interview, go for the more conservative one. In addition, choose dress shoes that are more formal and would not be mistaken for a more casual shoe. You want to make sure your visual presentation of yourself is as strong as the professional one you will be making during your interview.

See [Top Ten Interview Questions](#) for more information

For women, there is a little bit more flexibility. [If you are interviewing with a firm that has a reputation for being more old-fashioned or stuffy](#), you may want to opt for a knee-length skirt suit. Many firms, however, including most of the firms on the West Coast, view classic pantsuits to be appropriate interview attire. Like men, I advise my female candidates to wear suits that are more neutral in nature. Black or navy is always a good choice, along with a solid collared shirt.

Please keep your jewelry to a minimum and your hair tidy. Make-up for women should also be pretty minimal. In regards to shoes, a classic closed-toe pump is always a good bet. At times, open-toed shoes can seem too informal or inappropriate for an interview, so do not go this route. I also tell my female candidates to bring a briefcase instead of a purse, as I think this looks a little bit more professional. [It is also practical to bring a briefcase, as you can safely and neatly store extra copies of your resume, transcripts, writing samples, and references in it.](#)

See [Interviewing Tips](#) for more information

I would also recommend not wearing any cologne or perfume to an interview. Some people are very sensitive to scents and not all people have the same tastes as to what smells good.

I hope these tips are helpful to you and that your interview goes well. Best of luck to you!

See the following articles for more information:

[21 Major Interview Mistakes to Avoid at All Costs](#)

[The Best Way to Prepare for a Job Search and Interviews](#)

[How to Talk About Other Interviews in Your Interviews](#)

[How to Answer the Tell Me About Yourself Interview Question](#)

[How to Answer the Do You Have Any Questions for Me Interview Question](#)

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