

Look at Who's in Demand for In-House Counsel Positions

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Survey Shows Who is in Demand for Coveted In-House Positions



A new survey shows senior level lawyers are in particularly high demand for in-house counsel positions.

The survey, by New York legal consulting firm Eoilis International Group, found an increase in attorney interviews at big corporations last year and, among them, were interviews of senior level lawyers and law firm partners.

According to a <u>press release</u>, the corporations cited a growing need for sophisticated expertise and administrative savvy in managing outside counsel relationships. 40% of companies interviewing lawyers with ten or more years of law firm experience said they need sophisticated workers to streamline work farmed out to firms.

But in-house positions weren't the only jobs up for grabs at big corporations. 38% of companies surveyed reported considering experienced attorneys for a wide range of positions, including quasi-legal and business roles.

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This study signifies two things: Corporations are hiring, BUT their in-house legal departments are looking for experienced lawyers who understand private practice.

"In-house departments are in the process of trying to revamp their images," says Nicky Mukerji, director of business intelligence at LegalBill. "Presenting hires with both legal and business experience sends a strong message to corporate executives and financial departments that law departments will be capable of handling all aspects of their caseloads."

So what's a mid-level attorney to do in today's job market?

Go for the in-house counsel positions, but focus on small-to-medium-sized corporations. While experienced partners will always be more inherently attractive to a company's general counsel, chances are you'll get noticed if you demonstrate your love of substantive legal work as well as business management.

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