

Attorney
Public Justice Center
Baltimore, Maryland

June 2018

Be a critical member in a team of social justice advocates! The Public Justice Center in Baltimore is seeking an attorney to take primary responsibility for client representation, collaboration with community partners, and other advocacy for a nonprofit law office.

The Public Justice Center (“PJC”) and Human Right to Housing Project

The Public Justice Center pursues systemic change to build a just society. Founded in Maryland in 1985, the PJC uses legal advocacy tools to pursue social justice, economic and racial equity, and fundamental human rights for people who are struggling to provide for their basic needs. The PJC is a civil legal aid office that provides advice and representation to low-income clients, advocates before legislatures and government agencies, and collaborates with community and advocacy organizations. www.publicjustice.org.

The Human Right to Housing Project seeks the realization of a human right to housing that is fair, affordable, habitable, and accessible, with security of tenure and cultural adequacy. Project attorneys and paralegals provide legal services to low-income tenants in eviction and habitability cases, collaborate with community organizing partners to build tenant power, and advocate in state and local legislatures and government agencies for tenants’ rights.

This position is a one-year contractual position with the possibility of converting to a regular staff attorney position depending in part on continued funding.

Core Duties:

- ✓ Providing legal advice and representation to low-income tenants facing eviction.
- ✓ Providing know-your-rights trainings and outreach to community groups.
- ✓ Handling all aspects of litigation as lead or co-counsel (including with private co-counsel);
- ✓ Thorough and timely case and file management;
- ✓ Attending and participating in coalition meetings;
- ✓ Providing legal expertise, answers, drafting legislation, and/or developing other strategies as selected by partner coalitions;
- ✓ Lobbying and testifying in the Maryland General Assembly and other legislative bodies;
- ✓ Participating thoughtfully in team evaluations and the development of the team workplan and racial equity analysis.

Desired Skills and Experience

The following qualifications are valued for this position. Applicants should also identify other related or supplementary skills and experiences.

- Admission to practice law in Maryland is preferred, admission to another state bar required at a minimum.
- Spanish/English bilingual (or proficiency) in writing and speaking is highly desired.
- Prior legal experience with low-income and other oppressed communities and clients.
- Passion for social justice and commitment to the vision of the Public Justice Center.
- Attention to detail and keen organization skills.
- Ability to work under deadline and manage multiple tasks.
- Lived experience with our client communities.
- Ability to understand and sensitively respond to people seeking services in crisis situations.
- Excellent use of MS Word and Excel; database programs a plus.
- Strong problem-solving abilities, time management, and organizational skills.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively with others both in and outside of the PJC, including client groups, other advocacy organizations, coalition members, government officials, and attorneys.

Compensation:

Salary range begins at \$57,500 and increases with experience, plus \$1,000 Spanish language bonus if qualified. A cafeteria benefit package is offered including options for health, dental, disability and life insurance, and retirement plans.

Applications:

Applications should be submitted by July 13, 2018 to be assured of consideration, but applications will be accepted and interviews conducted on a rolling basis until position is filled. To apply, please submit, by email only, a cover letter explaining your interest, resume, two legal writing samples, and the names and telephone numbers of three references. Please send applications to Matt Hill, hillm@publicjustice.org with "Housing Attorney applicant" in the subject line. The Public Justice Center is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer that encourages all interested persons to apply regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, citizenship, creed, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, transgender status, age, religion, genetic information, physical or mental disability, marital status, or any other legally protected status.

SHORT AD:

Public Justice Center in Baltimore, MD seeking attorney for housing project. See <http://www.publicjustice.org/about/join-our-team/employment#> now for details. EOE.