

## **Staff Attorney/Native American Rights Team – Eagle Pass, Texas**

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid's Native American Rights Team seeks an enthusiastic attorney committed to providing justice to Native American and Indigenous clients residing in our 68-county service area, with a focus on those living in the middle border region – near Eagle Pass, Texas. TRLA is one of the nation's largest nonprofit corporations providing free civil legal services to eligible low-income persons. Our Native American Rights Team currently advocates for clients in custody proceedings under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and dedicated tribal criminal dockets.

### **PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

TRLA attorneys provide direct and comprehensive legal services to eligible clients in a client-centered, trauma-informed practice. The staff attorney will practice civil and tribal law, provide legal services to TRLA eligible clients, supervise and work with legal paraprofessionals, participate in community legal education, attend and coordinate clinics or other events as requested by the Branch or Team manager. This position involves tribal court advocacy in ICW and criminal dockets, in addition to a broader civil practice in both state and federal court.

### **QUALIFICATIONS AND PREFERENCES:**

Experience with the ICWA and other laws affecting Native Americans, as well as in family law litigation, criminal defense, and working with survivors of trauma, including in a law school clinic setting, is preferred. The candidate must be highly organized and have strong written and oral advocacy skills, as well as the ability to work collaboratively with non-attorneys, be self-motivated and able to work independently. The strongest candidates will demonstrate enthusiasm for direct client services, litigation, and client-centered, culturally-responsive advocacy. Staff attorneys also collaborate with Native American tribes, local agencies, and community partners to respond to emerging legal needs. Local travel to multiple Texas counties is expected.

### **REQUIRED:**

- Must be licensed to practice law in Texas
- Maintain continuing legal education requirements
- Written and oral fluency in Spanish language preferred

### **COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:**

Salary is commensurate with experience and includes an excellent fringe benefits package including law school loan repayment. (Spring graduates from law school typically start being paid the first week of June while studying for the bar, but report to work after the bar exam. TRLA provides reimbursement for the bar application fee and bar preparation course to new law graduates who have not yet taken the bar exam.)

## **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Step One -- Click here to apply. <https://trla.wufoo.com/forms/zau9rw11kh2tiy/>

Step Two -- Selected applicants will be contacted for a telephone interview, virtual or an in-person interview depending on a variety of factors.

Step Three -- Depending on the circumstances, some selected applicants will be invited to virtually meet with staff.

Step Four -- Selected applicants will be offered a position.

The consideration of candidates is ongoing and will continue until the position is filled. The position is available immediately, although the start date is somewhat negotiable.

**TRLA is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to an equitable workplace.**