

Job Title

Staff Attorney, Immigration – Detained Removal Defense

Job Description

The Immigration Law Unit (ILU) in The Legal Aid Society's Civil Practice is a recognized leader in providing high-quality representation to non-citizens in all five boroughs of New York City and surrounding counties. Our staff of almost 100 attorneys, social workers, and paralegals across six different projects and initiatives works collaboratively to provide client-centered, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive legal services.

As part of an initiative called the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP), the ILU is seeking Staff Attorneys to join its city-wide Immigration Law Unit Detention Project. The Staff Attorneys must have a deep commitment to public interest and immigration law. The Staff Attorneys will represent detained clients in removal and bond proceedings before the Varick Street Immigration Court, the Elizabeth Immigration Court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and, when appropriate, in Family Court proceedings, and related proceedings before the USCIS. The Staff Attorneys will also represent The Legal Aid Society's NYIFUP clients who are released from custody and continue to meet income eligibility requirements.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent detained noncitizens in removal proceedings in immigration courts, before the Board of Immigration Appeals and in Family Court proceedings
- Represent non-detained clients released on bond
- Provide individualized consultations to detained noncitizens at detention centers in upstate New York and surrounding areas. Travel may be required in the early morning, evenings, and weekends
- Work with pro bono counsel on assigned pro bono cases
- Engage in affirmative litigation
- Other duties as assigned

Required Documents

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample as a PDF when you apply via the LAS Recruitment Portal.

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Location

Manhattan - Legal Aid Society Headquarters

Requirements

- Admission to New York State bar, pending admission to the New York State bar, or admission to any other state bar with immediate ability to waive into the New York State bar
- Immigration law experience, including law school clinics and/or internships, or at least two years representing indigent clients generally

- Demonstrated commitment to representing/working with individuals from marginalized communities
- Demonstrated commitment to defending individuals who have had contacts with the criminal legal system immigration law experience preferred
- Trial experience preferred
- Excellent writing, analytical, and organizational skills
- Ability to think critically and creatively about legal strategy/solutions
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in a team
- Ability to manage a fast-paced caseload
- Ability to work with pro bono lawyers
- Proficiency in languages other than English is desirable, but not required

SALARY AND BENEFITS

The leadership of The Legal Aid Society believes in attracting and retaining exceptional talent committed to serving our clients. We offer a generous benefits package including health insurance, paid vacation, disability, and life insurance, and more. Salaries for our unionized jobs are governed by our Collective Bargaining Agreement. Please visit our Careers page for additional information. Salary and benefits information will be available to applicants, when and if, an offer is made.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The leadership of The Legal Aid Society is committed to a work culture of zealous advocacy, respect, diversity and inclusion, client-oriented defense, access to justice and excellent representation. We are dedicated to building a strong professional relationship with each of our clients, to understanding their diverse circumstances, and to meeting their needs. Our ability to achieve these goals depends on the efforts of all of us.

COVID VACCINATION INFORMATION

The Legal Aid Society is taking precautions and implementing safety measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to comply with New York City's requirements concerning Covid-19. All members of the Legal Aid community have a shared responsibility to support and comply with policies and protocols to protect the health and safety of our community. Learn more about our COVID-19 policy by visiting our [website](#).

HOW TO APPLY

Click here to apply:

<https://recruiting.adp.com/srccar/public/RTI.home?c=1143211&d=ExternalCareerSite&r=5000841406500&fromPublish=true#/>

All applications must be completed online. We do not accept paper submissions. Please visit our Careers Page to review all current job postings, and instructions on the application process. For technical difficulties or questions regarding this posting, please email jobpostquestions@legal-aid.org .

As an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer, The Legal Aid Society prohibits discriminatory employment actions against and treatment of its employees and applicants for employment based on actual or perceived race or color, size (including bone structure, body size, height, shape, and weight), religion or creed, alienage or citizenship status, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity (one's internal deeply-held sense of one's gender which may be the same or different from one's sex assigned at birth; one's gender identity may be male, female, neither or both, e.g., non-binary), gender expression (the representation of gender as expressed through, for example, one's name, choice of pronouns, clothing, haircut, behavior, voice, or body characteristics; gender expression may not be distinctively male or female and may not conform to traditional gender-based stereotypes assigned to specific gender identities), disability, marital status, relationship and family structure (including domestic partnerships, polyamorous families and individuals, chosen family, platonic co-parents, and multigenerational families), genetic information or predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, domestic violence victim status, arrest or pre-employment conviction record, credit history, unemployment status, caregiver status, salary history, or any other characteristic protected by law.