



610 S. Ardmore Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90005, Tel: (213) 385-2977, Fax: (213) 385-9089, Website: www.publiccounsel.org

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

DIRECTING ATTORNEY CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROJECT

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Public Counsel is the largest *pro bono* public interest law firm in the country. Founded in 1970, it is dedicated to advancing equal justice under law and addressing economic, racial, and other inequities by delivering free legal and social services to the most vulnerable members of our community. Public Counsel operates eight legal projects: Children's Rights, Community Development, Consumer Rights, Homelessness Prevention, Immigrants' Rights, Veterans' Rights, the Audrey Irmas Project for Women & Girls' Rights, and our impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law. Public Counsel has a full-time staff of over 120. We seek to have a racially inclusive staff.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Directing Attorney oversees the Children's Rights Project and coordinates multiple practice areas that are headed by senior or supervising attorneys. The Children's Rights Project provides holistic direct representation (coordinated between attorneys and social workers) and advocates for systemic reforms through local and statewide advocacy and impact litigation in the following areas:

- adoption;
- guardianship;
- education (including special education, school discipline, school climate, racial justice, funding equity, and English Learner issues);
- advocacy on education and other legal issues affecting transition-age foster and probation youth and pregnant/parenting youth;
- advocacy for children and youth with developmental disabilities.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Lead a team of about 20 staff, including attorneys, social workers, paralegals and administrative support staff.

Recruit, train and support pro bono attorneys and volunteers.

Identify, develop and file impact litigation related to children's rights.

Engage in public policy and legislative work related to children's rights.

Provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to groups serving children or their caregivers; community-based organizations serving children, youth, and families; attorneys and bench officers.

Prepare training materials, policy briefs, and articles for publication regarding children's rights.

Participate on working committees at the state and county level with courts, public agencies, and other advocacy groups on issues that impact children's rights and well-being.

Work with development staff to identify and pursue foundation grants and other funding sources for the Children's Rights Project; oversee and manage fulfillment of grant deliverables; and oversee grant reporting.

Commitment to economic and racial justice.

Comfort working with low-income, racially diverse clients.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be a member in good standing of the California Bar.
- At least seven years' experience as a practicing attorney preferred.
- Practicing and substantive knowledge of children's law and procedures, including dependency and other civil legal matters regarding children's rights.
- Commitment to the provision of legal services to children and youth in an interdisciplinary team environment.
- Willingness to supervise the activities of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals, and paraprofessionals, and volunteers; previous supervisory experience desirable.

SALARY

Commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits package.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Continuous until position is filled.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume (as PDF documents if sent via email, with “CRP Directing Attorney” in the subject line) to:

Elizabeth Bluestein
Public Counsel
610 South Ardmore Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90005
Fax: (213) 385-9089
Email: pcapplicant@publiccounsel.org

No phone calls please.

Public Counsel is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants shall receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, ethnic group identification, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, political affiliation, condition of physical or mental disability, gender identity or sexual orientation, in accordance with requirements of Federal and State laws.

All qualified applicants with criminal histories will be considered in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring.