



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

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

STAFF ATTORNEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Public Counsel's Community Development Project ("CDP") is seeking a full-time staff attorney to support its equitable and inclusive development programs. **This position is time-limited, and will end 12 months after the start date; any extension of term is dependent on grant funding.**

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 Irmes Project for Women & Girls' Rights, and our impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law. Public Counsel has a full-time staff of over 130. We seek to have a racially inclusive staff.

Public Counsel's Community Development Project (CDP) strives to build healthy, inclusive, economically stable communities through the delivery of *pro bono* legal services to community-based coalitions, nonprofits and small businesses in Los Angeles County. CDP provides transactional legal services to nonprofits that assist lower income people and neighborhoods and to entrepreneurs located in, and employing residents of, low income neighborhoods. CDP also supports community led advocacy groups and community based organizations in their efforts to advance racial and economic justice and build power in low-income communities and communities of color. We advance community driven planning, development and litigation strategies to promote affordable housing and equitable development, create jobs and encourage child care facilities. Our clients include neighborhood based community development corporations, housing advocacy and organizing groups and coalitions, health care clinics, small businesses and child care providers serving areas in need in Los Angeles, including Boyle Heights, South LA, Pico Union, Wilmington, San Gabriel Valley, Southeast LA County, and Skid Row.

JOB SUMMARY

The Staff Attorney position is for a junior attorney to help advance CDP's community driven planning, development and litigation strategies to promote affordable housing, prevent

displacement, create jobs and expand early care and education services. The Attorney must be passionate about achieving justice and overcoming barriers facing low-income people, a creative and zealous lawyer and a team-player, committed to achieving lasting results for clients and low-income communities. **This position is time-limited, and will end 12 months after the start date.**

Specifically, the Staff Attorney will be responsible for:

- Staffing CDP's existing litigation cases, focused on expanding and protecting affordable housing and enforcing the rights of tenants and people experiencing homelessness,
- Working with community organizations to advance equitable development and to develop and implement strategies to address gentrification and displacement, as well as to create and support entrepreneurship opportunities for sidewalk vendors and child care providers,
- Providing education and analysis to community groups on new legislation and working with community groups to draft legislative language to advance tenant protections and equitable development,
- Actively participating as a member of the Community Development team, including but not limited to participation in firm-wide activities and advocacy,
- Adhering to program and case handling policies, procedures and standards of practice, as well as the highest professional and ethical standards, and
- Other duties as assigned.

The Staff Attorney will also help strengthen the Project's relationships with *pro bono* attorneys and law student volunteers. This position may also involve community outreach and presentations to educate our clients and community partners in areas of legal expertise.

ESSENTIAL JOB SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

- Demonstrated commitment to serving low-income communities and communities of color.
- Experience with community development law, land use, and/or the provision of legal services to strengthen low-income communities.
- Creative problem-solving skills.
- Excellent writing and verbal communication skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work well with teams.
- Fluency in Spanish preferred.
- Licensed to practice in the State of California.

START DATE AND COMPENSATION

This position is available beginning immediately. The Community Development Staff Attorney is a full-time, exempt position. Salary is commensurate with abilities and experience. Excellent benefits.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Continuous until position is filled.

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Shashi Hanuman

Public Counsel

610 South Ardmore Avenue

Los Angeles, California 90005

Fax: 213/385-9089

Email: cdp@publiccounsel.org

No phone calls please. Please put the words "CDP Staff Attorney Position" in your email subject.

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, 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.