



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

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

DIRECTING ATTORNEY HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION LAW 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 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.

Through services such as tenant counseling, eviction defense, fighting fines for quality-of-life infractions and misdemeanors, and government benefits advocacy, Public Counsel's Homelessness Prevention Law Project (HPLP) strengthens the safety net in our local communities. We also engage in advocacy efforts to create positive institutional and systemic change on behalf of low-income communities. Through these efforts—and through meaningful engagement with government agencies and community partners—we assist individuals and families in Los Angeles County who are at risk of or are currently experiencing homelessness to retain housing, food supports, and other vital benefits.

JOB SUMMARY

The HPLP Directing Attorney will manage a dynamic and growing team of advocates, including attorneys, paralegals, and administrative staff, in the delivery of legal services, policy advocacy, and litigation. As public support to address causes of homelessness increases, HPLP is responding by increasing its capacity to provide eviction defense and tenant counseling services, in addition to other critical legal support for low-income communities. The Directing Attorney works with the Project's supervising attorneys to design new programs to expand Public Counsel's delivery of these services; maintains existing programs; advocates for solutions to homelessness and housing instability; engages in litigation to address causes of housing instability; coordinates with community partners and other projects at Public Counsel to address the causes and consequences of homelessness; and manages project budgets.

The Directing Attorney will work with the President/CEO and other firm leadership to determine the strategic direction of HPLP and oversee its implementation. This role provides an exciting opportunity for an individual who is passionate about alleviating homelessness and making a difference in the lives of individuals and the broader community.

ESSENTIAL JOB SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

- Member in good standing of the State Bar of California with at least 10 years of practice preferred
- Expertise in housing or homelessness-related issues
- Strong interpersonal, management and organizational skills
- Ability and willingness to mentor and develop staff
- Ability to work productively with coalitions, working groups and volunteers
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Demonstrated commitment to race equity and economic justice
- Experience, and comfort, working with indigent clients, homeless clients and/or clients with HIV/AIDS, substance abuse challenges and/or mental health issues preferred
- Collaborative management style preferred
- Commitment to trauma-informed legal advocacy preferred
- Ability to read, write and speak fluently in Spanish is a plus

START DATE AND COMPENSATION

This position is available beginning February 3, 2020. This 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:

Margaret Morrow

President & CEO

Public Counsel

610 South Ardmore Avenue

Los Angeles, California 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.