Staff Attorney

Summary
The National Center for Law and Economic Justice (NCLEJ) seeks an experienced attorney with a strong commitment to social justice work to engage in impact litigation and advocacy on an expanding range of civil rights and economic justice issues. This position will have a strong focus on developing and expanding NCLEJ’s advocacy against debt-based driver’s license suspension.

NCLEJ
For over fifty years the National Center for Law and Economic Justice (NCLEJ) has worked to advance the cause of economic justice for low-income families, individuals and communities across the country. We fight discrimination against women, people of color, immigrants and people with disabilities and work to build systems that provide economic security and full participation in society to all.

Our current practice areas include: (1) improving and protecting access to critical safety net programs; (2) protecting and expanding the rights of lower wage workers to decent wages and a safe and fair workplace; (3) enforcing the civil rights of low-income people with disabilities; and (4) challenging abusive debt collection practices that undermine economic security. We litigate extensively in federal and state courts across the country, typically as lead counsel in class actions, and we partner with grassroots and community-based organizations, other legal organizations, and the private bar.

Qualifications for the Position

- At least 5 years hands-on experience handling major impact litigation, including drafting complaints and briefs, all phases of the discovery process, settlement negotiations, evidentiary hearings, trials and appeals. NCLEJ welcomes applications from candidates with significantly more experience. Those with more than ten years of experience will have the title Senior Attorney.
- Significant experience with non-litigation advocacy such as policy advocacy, support of grassroots organizing and/or coalition work.
- Demonstrated ability to develop new cases and areas of advocacy.
- Ability to work effectively with colleagues and clients from a great diversity of backgrounds.
- Commitment to racial and social justice and NCLEJ’s mission.
- Excellent legal research, writing, and oral advocacy skills.
- JD Degree and admission to the Bar of at least one state

Salary and Fringe Benefits
Salary is based is comparable to that of similar organizations in New York City. Under NCLEJ’s formal salary scale, the salary range for an attorney with 5-10 years experience is $75,800 - $97,200. For experience of more than ten years, the range is $97,200-$138,329. Fringe benefits include health, dental, life, and long-term and short-term disability insurance; vacation, sick, family and medical leave, employer contributions to a 403(b) plan, flexible spending plans, and generous holiday schedules; vision insurance and an employee assistance plan.

Applying for the Position
Applicants should email a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and contact information for three employment references to attorney@nclej.org. Please include your first and last name in the subject line. In your cover letter, please describe one or more projects, such as impact litigation or major policy advocacy, where you took a leadership role in launching the project. The position will remain open until filled.

NCLEJ is an equal opportunity employer. We greatly value a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture. People with disabilities, people of color, former recipients of public assistance, or people who have grown up in poverty are especially encouraged to apply.