



CONNECTICUT LEGAL SERVICES
A PRIVATE NONPROFIT CORPORATION
62 WASHINGTON ST. MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457
TELEPHONE (860) 344-0447
FAX (860) 346-2938
E-MAIL POVERTYLAW@CONNLEGALESERVICES.ORG

ANN TAYLOR
BOARD CHAIR

DEBORAH R. WITKIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JOB POSTING
LITIGATION AND ADVOCACY DIRECTOR
February 4, 2019

Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS) seeks a highly skilled and committed attorney to lead its litigation and systemic advocacy initiatives.

ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTION

Connecticut Legal Services (CLS) is Connecticut's largest non-profit law firm, providing free legal help to low-income people in areas including housing, consumer, family law, public benefits, education, immigration, employment, and disability. With a staff of almost 80 in seven offices across Connecticut, CLS fights for equal justice and improved life opportunities for more than 12,000 people every year.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Litigation and Advocacy Director (LAD) position are:

- Lead, grow, support, and participate in major or complex litigation;
- Act as a catalyst for CLS staff to identify systemic issues that impact clients and ensure the development of strategic litigation and/or advocacy strategies to address them;
- Provide technical assistance, co-advocacy, media advocacy, and emerging legal advocacy approaches to CLS staff;
- Assist staff to remain current on procedural and substantive law as well as policy and research issues regarding CLS' priority areas and broader issues affecting the client community,
- Teach and model effective advocacy in state and federal courts, administrative proceedings, and policy advocacy forums and develop tools and guidelines that facilitate that work;
- In collaboration with CLS managers and staff, promote professional development, organize and conduct regular staff training; and identify and facilitate connections across units/substantive areas;
- Work collaboratively with other CLS managers to ensure proper balance between direct individual client service and systemic advocacy that benefits the larger client population;
- Work effectively with the leadership and staff of Connecticut's legal services network to coordinate statewide litigation and advocacy efforts;
- Establish and maintain strong working relationships with community organizations, local bar associations, judges, social service agencies, funding sources, public officials, the media, and other individuals or groups related to the provision of legal services to the poor;
- Consistently demonstrate an exceptional work ethic in accomplishing the LAD duties.

*Connecticut Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer and proudly values diversity.
Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.*



REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Deep and demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of low-income, vulnerable, and marginalized communities, and to CLS' mission, vision, goals, and values;
- Connecticut Bar Admission, or eligible for timely admission to practice;
- Minimum of 10 years legal practice;
- Significant experience in state and federal litigation (experience as lead counsel in complex litigation in both forums is strongly preferred);
- Substantial experience leading advocacy efforts other than litigation;
- Superior oral, written communication, and editing skills;
- Excellent administrative and organizational skills;
- Management or administrative experience involving staff supervision and mentoring;
- Commitment to a flexible, comprehensive view of representation on behalf of low-income people that values both individual and systemic advocacy;
- Ability to identify and respond to shifting trends in legal practice and policies affecting the poor;
- Ability to identify creative solutions to multi-faceted legal problems;
- Willingness to travel and work among CLS' statewide offices, as needed; and
- Personal attributes including:
 - Dedication to high moral and ethical standards,
 - Commitment to teamwork and the ability to engender confidence and trust;
 - A management style that inspires and encourages professional growth in others,
 - The ability to work effectively with diverse groups and individuals, and
 - A sense of humor, sound judgment, and overall excellent "people skills".

START DATE

As soon as practicable.

COMPENSATION

Salary will be commensurate with experience and competitive in the nonprofit legal advocacy field, with extremely generous benefits.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants should send a cover letter clearly describing their qualifications, resume, 5-10 page original writing sample, and the names and contact information for three references to alupia@connlegalservices.org. CLS invites all applicants to include in their cover letter a statement about how your unique background and/or experiences might contribute to the diversity, cultural vitality, and perspective of our staff and legal services practice.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until February 28, 2019. In order to expedite the internal sorting and reviewing process, please type your name (Last, First) and "Litigation and Advocacy Director Application" as the only contents in the subject line of your e-mail.

Connecticut Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer and proudly values diversity. Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.