



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: IMPACT LITIGATION FELLOW

Position Overview

The Mississippi Center for Justice seeks an experienced litigation attorney to be the inaugural George Riley Fellow for impact litigation. This is a full-time position that reports to the Advocacy Director. The position is for two years, which may be renewed. The Fellow is responsible for identifying and leading significant litigation matters in each of the Center's campaign areas- housing, fair credit, education, and health care access- with the assistance of pro bono counsel and MCJ staff attorneys. The position requires extensive litigation experience. The Fellow must be a strategic thinker and a team player with a strong commitment to social justice.

Mission

Established in 2003, the Center is a nonprofit law and policy advocacy organization that advances racial and economic justice. Its staff of 24 - including lawyers, organizers, policy advocates, and communications professionals - works with community leaders to support social justice campaigns and combat discrimination and poverty across the state. With offices in Jackson, Biloxi and Indianola, the Center pursues systemic solutions that promote educational opportunity, protect the rights of consumers, secure access to health care, and put affordable housing within the reach of all Mississippians.

Over the past 13 years, MCJ has worked with co-counsel in high-profile cases that advanced justice in Medicaid, disaster recovery, housing, and the rights of LGBT persons, among other things. The George Riley Impact Fellowship marks a major step forward in building MCJ's internal capacity to pursue high impact litigation as our campaign teams continue to advance justice through direct service and policy advocacy.

This fellowship honors the lifelong commitment to justice and public service of George Riley, a partner in O'Melveny & Myers. A Memphis native with Mississippi roots, George became one of the top intellectual property attorneys in the nation, representing the premier names in technology. After Hurricane Katrina, George donated hundreds of hours of volunteer legal service to enable storm victims to recover, and in 2009 he joined the MCJ board of directors. George died earlier this year after a courageous battle with cancer.

Responsibilities

- § Working with campaign leaders, identify potential impact litigation cases in each of MCJ's four campaign areas
- § Recruit and work with pro bono counsel on impact cases where appropriate
- § Work with national advocacy organizations in each campaign area to identify appropriate litigation for Mississippi
- § Work with MCJ's communications director to create a media strategy for each suit.

Qualifications:

§ Dedication to and passion for the Center's mission.

§ Licensed to practice law in Mississippi or willingness to sit for next available Bar Exam

§ Minimum of 10 years of litigation experience, with track record of verdicts, settlements, reported decisions

§ Experience managing cases with multiple defendants; class actions; impact cases (representing either plaintiffs or defendants)

§ Experience in co-counseling

§ Subject matter experience relevant to existing campaign areas preferred

§ Self-motivated creative thinker with the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

§ Proficiency with law office technology

Salary and Benefits: The Center offers a competitive salary and generous benefits package commensurate with experience.

To Apply: Please email a resume, cover letter and list of relevant experience to Beth Orlansky at borlansky@mscenterforjustice.org.

Diversity and inclusion are core values of the Mississippi Center for Justice. MCJ is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, ethnicity, sex, national orientation, sexual orientation, or other classifications considered discriminatory under the law.