Counsel, Economic Justice and Special Litigation Projects

The Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law is one of the leading national civil rights legal organizations, with the principal mission of fighting racial discrimination faced by African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities. The Lawyers’ Committee was formed in 1963 at the request of President John F. Kennedy to enlist the private bar’s leadership and resources in combating racial discrimination and the resulting inequality of opportunity—work that continues to be vital today.

The Lawyers’ Committee is seeking a talented, experienced attorney with a demonstrated commitment to racial justice to serve as Counsel in the Economic Justice and Special Litigation Projects.

Through an inclusive lens, the Economic Justice Project engages in impact litigation and legal advocacy to ensure that communities of color can access equal opportunities and meaningfully engage in the economy to lead dignified and productive lives free from discrimination. The Special Litigation and Advocacy Project works on cutting-edge civil rights issues that require extensive collaboration between the projects of the Lawyers’ Committee and on emerging racial justice issues that lie beyond the scope of the organization’s traditional work. In response to the coronavirus pandemic, these Projects have partnered to address the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on Black communities, and other communities of color. The Counsel will have the opportunity to work with the private bar, community organizations and advocates to investigate threats to racial justice and advocate for health equity through litigation and policy advocacy.

Applicants must have a demonstrated commitment to racial justice. Applicants must also possess excellent legal research and writing skills, and have a history of working closely with or within community organizations. Ideal candidates must be organized, collaborative and capable of managing multiple projects simultaneously, as well as have the ability to work well with clients and effectively engage with a wide range of non-profit and public interest organizations, both legal and non-legal, as well as law firm attorneys. Ideally, the candidate will have a thorough understanding of the country’s history of racial health inequities and be able to help develop strategies to address some of the pressing racial justice issues of the moment.
This is a two-year, full-time position based in Washington, DC, with the possibility of extension at the end of the term. Although work travel is currently suspended due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, travel will be required if company travel restrictions are lifted. The Counsel will be co-supervised by the Directors of the Economic Justice and the Special Litigation Projects.

**Specific Duties and Responsibilities:**

The Counsel will be responsible for helping to expand the Economic Justice and Special Litigation Project’s current capacity by:

- Supporting the Projects’ health equity and COVID-19 advocacy portfolio;
- Developing investigations of potential legal violations on behalf of Lawyers’ Committee clients;
- Litigating all aspects of matters from inception through conclusion in collaboration with Lawyers’ Committee staff, firm co-counsel and nonprofit partner co-counsel;
- Engaging in public education and public policy efforts supporting the Lawyers’ Committee’s work, including making presentations, attending and planning meetings and briefings with partners and stakeholders, and drafting written materials, including policy reports, briefing papers, and educational resources; and
- Drafting, in collaboration with Lawyers’ Committee staff and/or firm or nonprofit co-counsel, amicus briefs in support of issues central to the Project’s mission of advancing economic and equal opportunities for communities of color.

**Minimum Requirements and Competencies:**

- Graduation from an accredited law school, JD. **MPH or background in public health a plus;**
- At least 3 years of legal experience. **A background in health care equity, policy and/or litigation a plus;**
- A background working on a broad range of civil rights and/or racial justice matters and experience working at the intersection of race, gender and access to healthcare is a plus;
- Active Bar Membership and eligibility to waive or be admitted to the D.C. Bar;
- Ability to manage a varied docket, and to work well with colleagues, pro bono counsel and partner advocacy organizations;
• Ability to develop, maintain and enhance relationships with diverse groups and coalitions;
• Excellent writing, interpersonal, communication and presentation skills;
• Comfort working in a diverse environment; and
• Deep commitment to civil rights and racial justice, including the ability, desire, and curiosity to develop knowledge in a broad range of civil rights issues.

To Apply: Please submit a cover letter and resume including graduation completion dates to https://podio.com/webforms/25103212/1848791. No calls will be accepted. The position will remain open until filled and applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Salary and benefits are competitive for a nonprofit legal organization. Staff Benefits include Employer Sponsored (Medical, Dental and Group Life & AD&D); Voluntary Benefits (Vision Insurance, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability and Supplemental Life) coverage; the opportunity to participate in the 403(b) Retirement Plan; Voluntary Flexible Spending (Medical and/or Dependent Care) and Stipends (Cell Phone and Commuter/Parking Benefits); 11 paid Holidays and Vacation/Sick days.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion: The Lawyers’ Committee embraces diversity and inclusion in our workplace. We strongly encourage candidates of color and candidates from underrepresented communities to apply. The Lawyers’ Committee does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family responsibility, personal appearance, genetic information, matriculation, political affiliation or any other status protected under law.

Accessibility Assistance: Although calls will not be accepted regarding questions about the position, if you are an individual with a disability and need assistance completing the online application, please call 202-662-8600 and ask for an applicant accommodation or send an email with the subject line “Applicant Accommodation” to kcoates@lawyerscommittee.org.