

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



Position: Staff Attorney

Reports to: Immigrants' Rights Managing Attorney

Bargaining Unit: Yes

FLSA: Exempt

Position Summary & Responsibilities

Centro Legal's immigration practice includes comprehensive, full-service direct representation before USCIS and the immigration courts (EOIR), district court and federal court of appeals. Centro also participates in impact litigation efforts, legal rights education, and local and national advocacy. We specialize in detained and non-detained removal defense, the intersection of immigration and criminal law, affirmative asylum applications, and humanitarian visas.

Centro Legal is seeking an experienced attorney to assist in the provision of immigration legal services. The staff attorney will represent non-detained immigrants in proceedings, with a focus on representing children and youth.

Primary responsibilities will include:

- Representing non-detained individuals in removal proceedings before the San Francisco Immigration Court and Board of Immigration Appeals;
- Preparing and submitting applications, legal briefs, and supporting documentation for cases involving asylum, withholding of removal, relief under the Convention Against Torture, U visa, VAWA, and adjustment of status with applicable waivers;
- Providing direct representation to unaccompanied minors before the USCIS and EOIR in cases involving asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), Voluntary Departure, U visas, and other relief, and representation in California State courts to obtain orders necessary for SIJS;
- Conducting and supervising legal clinics designed to serve local students, and maintain relationships with school district officials in order to facilitate these clinics;
- Conducting Know-Your-Rights presentations to community members;
- Presenting to custodians of unaccompanied minors who have been released in the Bay Area, and provide social service, legal, and other referrals;
- Assisting in identifying potential federal litigation cases arising from direct services work and assisting in impact litigation efforts in federal district and circuit courts for placement with pro bono attorney or other non-profit litigation partners; and
- Assisting in determining appropriate case stories for use in reports, advocacy materials, and public education and providing expert testimony to media on current immigration law and policy topics.

Qualifications:

The applicant must profoundly share Centro Legal's mission and vision of social justice. Below are additional qualifications.

- Admitted and in good standing with a State Bar; licensed in California preferred;
- Fluency in Spanish required;
- Excellent writing, research, analytical, and verbal communication skills;
- A demonstrated commitment to civil liberties, immigrant justice, and public interest law;
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively on projects with lawyers, other staff members, and with diverse community organizations;
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity within the office and a personal approach that values all individuals and respects differences regarding race, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religion, ability, socio-economic circumstance, immigration status, and record of arrest or conviction;
- A record of moving legal cases forward and demonstrated ability to build and manage a heavy caseload; and
- Familiarity in working with clients in crisis or who are recent trauma survivors.

Compensation

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. We provide a generous benefits package, including life insurance, LTD, leave policies, vacation, and December holiday office closure at full pay.

To Apply

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Submit: 1) cover letter, 2) resume, and 3) a list of three professional references. Include "**Staff Attorney – Immigration**" in the subject line. Please email application materials directly to jobs@centrolegal.org.

POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED

About Centro Legal de la Raza

Founded in 1969 and headquartered in Oakland, California, Centro Legal de la Raza (Centro Legal) is a comprehensive legal services and advocacy organization protecting and advancing the rights of immigrant, low-income, and Latino communities through bilingual representation, education, and advocacy. We combine quality legal services with know-your-rights education, affirmative litigation, and youth development, ensuring access to justice for thousands of individuals and families each year throughout Northern and Central California. Centro Legal's multifaceted approach to legal advocacy on behalf of the most vulnerable amongst us is purposefully designed to ensure access to justice. To this end, we pride ourselves in the three key components of our work: creating leadership, empowerment, and equity in our community.

We focus on leadership by providing guidance and mentorship to the next generation of attorneys and judges of color through our Youth Law Academy and Diversity Legal Pipeline programs. We incubate community empowerment by advocating for positive change in local and state governments, creating meaningful dialogue on issues through our communications

and media strategies, and by engaging in true, collaborative based, community lawyering. Finally, we ensure equity through high quality bilingual legal services and courtroom advocacy.

For more information, please visit our website: <https://centrolegal.org/>

Diversity Statement

Centro Legal's mission includes advancing social, economic and racial justice. We are committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion within and ensuring a workplace where all staff can flourish and grow professionally and well beyond. Our staff are the most important part of our ability to achieve our mission. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only our culture, but our reputation, sustainability and our organization's success. Centro Legal de la Raza is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, pregnancy), gender, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, medical condition including genetic characteristics, mental or physical disability, military or veteran status, marital status, family responsibilities, caregiver status, sexual orientation, gender identity (including transgender status), gender expression, weight, height, linguistic characteristics (such as accent and limited English proficiency where not substantially job-related), citizenship status, status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, HIV/AIDS status, or any other basis prohibited by law. Centro Legal also prohibits discrimination based on a perception that an individual has any of the characteristics of the protected classes listed above, and further prohibits discrimination against an individual who is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of those characteristics.