

November 6, 2023

FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

THE ALAN MANSFIELD RACIAL JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP SPECIAL LITIGATION PROJECT

Mobilization for Justice (MFJ), a non-profit legal services organization that provides a wide range of free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers, is accepting applications for its third annual Alan Mansfield Racial Justice Fellowship, to start in March 2024. The Fellowship was created in 2021 in memory of Alan Mansfield, a beloved longtime partner at Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Chair of MFJ's Board of Directors, and 25-year member of the New York State Commission on Judicial Nominations. The Fellowship is designed for attorneys with at least four years of litigation experience who would like to transition to public interest impact and class action litigation. The Mansfield Fellowship is a one-year fellowship.

The Mansfield Fellow will work in MFJ's Special Litigation Project (SLP) alongside two experienced public interest litigators. MFJ created the SLP in 2020 to expand and strengthen the scope of our impact litigation and law reform work. The SLP works closely with staff across MFJ's core program areas (Housing, Economic Justice, Disability and Aging Rights, and Children's Rights) to identify systemic problems affecting MFJ's clients. The SLP focuses on problems that have a significant racial justice component and would benefit from impact or class action litigation and law reform work. The SLP develops and litigates cases in federal and state court with co-counsel partnerships, serves as a resource on litigation strategy for MFJ attorneys, and engages in non-litigation advocacy on issues of concern, including community organizing, public policy, and media relations work.

MFJ's mission is to achieve justice for all. MFJ prioritizes the needs of people who are low-income, disenfranchised, or have disabilities as they struggle to overcome the effects of social injustice and systemic racism. We provide the highest-quality free, direct civil legal assistance, conduct community education, build partnerships, engage in policy advocacy, and bring impact litigation. We assist more than 14,000 New Yorkers each year, benefiting over 24,000. MFJ has a staff of more than 165 attorneys, paralegals, social workers, and support staff. It is a diverse, unionized, and collegial workplace where staff share the organization's mission to achieve social justice.

The Mansfield Fellow's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

- Working on a broad range of impact and class action litigation challenging due process and other civil rights violations in the areas of special education, law enforcement, and immigration; discrimination in employment, housing, credit, and other spheres; predatory lending; and environmental injustice, among others.
- Collaborating with other public interest legal organizations and private firms on systemic investigations, litigation, and other forms of advocacy; and
- Receiving mentoring and training on discovery, motion practice, public policy advocacy, media, and community organizing.

Requirements:

- A J.D. degree, admission to New York, and at least four years of litigation experience. Law students and attorneys without at least four years of litigation experience will not be considered.
- Excellent research, writing, verbal communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated commitment to MFJ's mission and goals, including its pursuit of racial and social justice.
- Ability to work independently.
- Class action litigation experience in state or federal court is a plus.
- Demonstrated proficiency or fluency in Spanish, a Chinese dialect, French Creole, Bengali, or other second language is a plus.

Salary/Fellowship Stipend is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement with excellent fringe benefits, including healthcare. The salary range for this position is currently \$88,139.34 to \$104,155.89 but may be subject to change depending on the negotiation of a new collective bargaining agreement. Greenberg Traurig, LLP is a co-sponsor of the Fellowship.

How to apply: interested applicants should email a (1) cover letter, (2) resume, (3) writing sample (10-page max), and (4) three references to recruitment@mfjlegal.org with the subject line "Mansfield Fellowship Application." Please include in your cover letter a statement about how your background or experience might contribute to the diversity and perspective of our office and the SLP's work with low-income populations. Please also indicate where you saw this posting. Applications must be received by December 8, 2023. No telephone calls, please. Candidates selected for consideration will be scheduled for an interview.

For more information about MFJ, please go to www.mobilizationforjustice.org. For more information about the SLP, please go to www.mobilizationforjustice.org/projects/special-litigation-project/.

MFJ IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, sex, gender, age, religion, national origin, citizen status, marital status, physical or mental disability, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. BIPOC, women, people with disabilities, and LBGTQIA+ candidates are encouraged to apply.