Job Announcement Staff Attorney Consumer Rights Project

Mobilization for Justice, Inc. (MFJ), a non-profit legal services organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers, is seeking a staff attorney for its Consumer Rights Project. The position is full-time and is based out of our Manhattan office. The Consumer Rights Project provides a wide range of legal services for low-income New Yorkers facing consumer-related problems and works on policy issues related to economic justice.

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 and build partnerships, engage in policy advocacy, and bring impact litigation. MFJ also promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in our workplace, and understands the need to eliminate all racial disparities to achieve justice for all. 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.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting client intake on an intake line, in person, at community-based organizations and/or at court-based clinics, sometimes in the evening.
- Research and writing.
- Defending and prosecuting consumer cases, drafting complaints, engaging in motion practice, writing and arguing appeals and amicus briefs, drafting administrative complaints, and assisting with applications to discharge student loans.
- Identifying issues for impact or class action litigation or policy initiatives, including drafting white papers and engaging in legislative advocacy campaigns.
- Advocating in various forums on consumer issues, including drafting testimony for and testifying at public hearings.
- Creating and updating community educational and training materials.
- Inputting and maintaining records in case management system.

Requirements:

- Law graduates are encouraged to apply; admission to the New York State Bar preferred.
- Experience with or knowledge of anti-oppressive practices.
- Working knowledge of the lived experiences of the community members MFJ serves.
- Demonstrated ability to take initiative and leadership roles.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Ability to balance working on complex litigation, handling individual casework, and advocating for legislative and policy initiatives, as well as traveling to various boroughs.

- Excellent organizational skills and demonstrated ability to manage competing deadlines and priorities.
- Willingness to register as a lobbyist with New York City and New York State.

Preferred:

- Experience defending debt collection cases in civil court and/or advising pro se litigants in debt collection cases.
- Experience working with diverse and multi-cultural populations is preferred.
- Fluency in Spanish, a Chinese dialect or another language spoken by immigrant populations in New York City.
- Litigation experience in state and/or federal court.

Salary is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement with excellent fringe benefits. The salary range for this position is \$64,254.75 to \$128,365.06, but may be subject to change, depending on the negotiation of a new collective bargaining agreement.

To apply, please send a single PDF including a cover letter, resume and writing sample (whether academic, non-academic, professional, or periodic) to recruitment@mfjlegal.org with "CRP Staff Attorney" in the subject line. The priority deadline to apply is January 19, 2023. We encourage all applicants to include in their cover letter any background or experience that might contribute to our office's diversity and perspective. No telephone calls please.

MFJ IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

All qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, religion/creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, military status, predisposing genetic characteristics, victim of domestic violence status, marital status, or any other characteristic protected by law. 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.

For further information about MFJ, please go to www.mobilizationforjustice.org.