

August 21, 2014

**Job Announcement
Staff Attorney – Consumer Rights**

MFY Legal Services, Inc. (MFY), a non-profit legal services organization that provides a wide range of free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers, is seeking a staff attorney for its Consumer Rights Project. The attorney will be part of a project that uses a multi-prong approach to providing legal services and effecting reform in the consumer law area, including: defending debt collection cases; initiating affirmative/impact litigation; working in coalition with advocacy groups on policy issues; providing testimony and comments on proposed legislation and regulations; conducting trainings; and communicating with elected officials and the media.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting client intake; conducting legal research; drafting legal memoranda, advocacy letters and other legal papers; and litigating all phases of cases including drafting pleadings, engaging in motion practice, conducting trials, writing and arguing appeals and writing amicus briefs.
- Conducting outreach to the community, and training lawyers, community groups, non-legal professionals and consumers on the consumer rights issues.
- Staffing off-site legal clinics.
- Assisting with applications for discharges of student loans.
- Identifying issues for impact or class-action litigation or policy initiatives, including conducting studies, drafting white papers, presenting testimony, participating in and leading coalitions and legislative advocacy campaigns related to consumer rights.
- Lobbying on issues of importance to consumers.
- Inputting and maintaining records in case management system.

Requirements:

- Admission to NYS Bar.
- Fluency in Spanish sufficient to conduct an intake interview, draft correspondence and provide advice to clients, and handle client meetings and court appearances without the assistance of a translator or interpreter.
- Two years of experience with student loan matters, defending debt collection cases in civil court and/or advising *pro se* litigants in debt collection cases; experience with CLARO a plus.
- Knowledge of consumer law areas, including student loans, debt collection, credit reporting, taxes, and/or bankruptcy.
- Litigation experience in state and/or federal court.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Ability to balance working on complex litigation, handling individual casework, and advocating for legislative or policy changes.
- Willingness to register as a lobbyist with New York City and New York State;
- Advocating for legislative or policy changes.

Salary is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

Applicants should submit cover letter, resume and writing sample (preferably a memorandum of law) addressed to Carolyn Coffey, Supervising Attorney, and transmitted by e-mail to ccoffey@mfy.org with “**Consumer Rights Staff Attorney**” in the subject line. Applications must be received by **September 5, 2014**. Early applications are appreciated. No telephone calls please.

For further information about MFY, please go to www.mfy.org.

MFY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

People of color, women, people with disabilities, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are welcome and encouraged to apply.