

September 5, 2014

Job Announcement Staff Attorney

MFY Legal Services, Inc. (MFY), a non-profit legal services organization that provides free civil legal services low-income New Yorkers, is seeking a staff attorney for its Foreclosure Prevention Project. The attorney will be part of a team that represents homeowners in New York Supreme Court in Queens, Richmond and Kings Counties; prosecutes federal Fair Housing and other mortgage-related actions; works in coalition with advocacy groups city- and state-wide on policy issues; analyzes and provides testimony on proposed foreclosure-related legislation; conducts trainings for lawyers, housing counselors, and homeowners; and communicates regularly 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 handling settlement conferences, drafting complaints, engaging in motion practice, conducting trials, writing and arguing appeals and writing amicus briefs.
- Conducting outreach to the community, and training lawyers, community groups and homeowners on the rights of homeowners in foreclosure.
- Staffing off-site legal clinics.
- Identifying issues for impact or class-action litigation or policy initiatives, including white papers and legislative advocacy campaigns.
- Advocating and lobbying on issues of importance to homeowners and to the foreclosure defense community.
- Inputting and maintaining extensive records in case management system.

Requirements:

- Admission to NYS Bar.
- Experience negotiating residential mortgage loan modifications in New York City Supreme Court foreclosure settlement conference parts.
- Experience with and understanding of HAMP, FHA-HAMP, related mortgage loan modification programs, and other loss mitigation solutions.
- Experience preparing RMAs and MAP applications.
- Fluency with the MHA Handbook, all Supplemental Directives, FHA Mortgage Letters, CFPB servicing guidelines, and the NMS and other pertinent settlement agreements.
- Understanding of MERS, RMBS, and securitization.
- Experience litigating standing and claims under FHA, FDCPA, TILA, RESPA, HOEPA, NYS GBL § 349 and related statutes is strongly preferred.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Ability to balance working on complex litigation, handling individual casework, and advocating for legislative or policy changes.
- Willingness register as a lobbyist with New York City and New York State.

Fluency in Spanish, Russian or another language spoken by immigrant populations in New York City is strongly preferred.

Salary is pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample (preferably a brief or memorandum filed in court) addressed to Elise Brown, Director of Litigation for Economic Justice, and transmitted by e-mail to ebrown@mfy.org with “Foreclosure Staff Attorney” in the subject line. Applications must be received by Friday September 19, 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.