

## COMMUNITY-BASED IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY

### Legal Aid Justice Center

### Falls Church/Alexandria

#### About the Legal Aid Justice Center

The Legal Aid Justice Center is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that partners with communities and clients to achieve justice by dismantling the systems that create and perpetuate poverty. Justice means racial justice, economic justice, and social justice. From its offices in Charlottesville, Richmond, Petersburg, and Falls Church, LAJC is a fierce advocate for low-income clients and communities in Virginia. Just in the past year, we permanently repealed Virginia's driver's license suspension for court debt scheme, secured an injunction slashing the number of immigrants detained by ICE at the largest detention center in the Mid-Atlantic and passed a law giving Virginia oversight authority, won the nation's first COVID-specific, statewide, and enforceable workplace safety standards, passed legislation enabling communities to set up civilian oversight for law enforcement, and decriminalized school-based disorderly conduct, which was a leading contributor to the school-to-prison pipeline, especially for Black girls.

Founded in 1967, LAJC provides services under four key program areas: Civil Rights & Racial Justice, Economic Justice, Youth Justice, and Immigrant Advocacy. LAJC boldly tackles issues of systemic injustice and aims to raise public and policymaker awareness of some of the most pressing challenges facing low-income Virginia residents. For more information, visit [www.justice4all.org](http://www.justice4all.org).

#### About the Immigrant Advocacy Program

LAJC's **Immigrant Advocacy Program** supports low-income immigrants in their efforts to find justice and fair treatment. In addition to representing clients with individual legal issues, we promote systemic reforms to reduce the abuse and exploitation of immigrants, and advocate for state and local policies that protect immigrant communities from aggressive immigration enforcement and promote their wellbeing. Current campaigns include challenges to ICE detention, resisting family separation in all its different forms, and our De-ICE Virginia campaign seeking to sever cooperation between state and local government and federal immigration enforcement.

#### About the Position

Legal Aid Justice Center seeks a Community-Based Immigration Attorney to provide immigration legal services to the immigrant community in Alexandria, Virginia. The attorney will provide individual legal consults and know-your-rights presentations to residents of the City of Alexandria; emergency legal response services (including bond hearings, Motions to Reopen, and Reasonable Fear Interviews) for Alexandria residents arrested by ICE or at heightened risk of ICE detention; and defend Alexandria residents in removal proceedings. The attorney will also work in partnership with community organizers to develop advocacy campaigns and impact litigation seeking to disentangle state and local law enforcement from federal immigration enforcement, challenging ICE detention and enforcement abuses, and promoting the civil rights of immigrant residents of Alexandria.

Applicants must have a strong commitment to immigrants' rights and have a sufficient level of Spanish fluency to interview and counsel clients in Spanish without the assistance of an

interpreter. The ideal candidate has prior experience with immigration law, whether professionally or through a law school clinic.

**Required Qualifications**

- Strong commitment to social, economic, and racial justice
- Strong commitment to immigrants' rights
- Experience working directly with immigrant community members
- A sufficient level of Spanish fluency to interview and counsel clients in Spanish without the assistance of an interpreter
- Membership in the bar of any state, and ability to practice before the immigration court and USCIS
- Reliable personal transportation
- An ability to multi-task and balance a variety of responsibilities

**Preferred Qualifications**

- Prior experience with immigration law, professionally or through a law school clinic
- Membership in the Virginia bar or confirmed eligibility to waive in
- Experience working for a public interest law firm, legal services organization, or other nonprofit as an attorney or in a pro bono capacity

**Location**

This role will be based in our Falls Church office, with regular office hours at the Tenants and Workers United community center in Alexandria. Occasional travel between offices will be required.

**Application Deadline**

We accept applications on a rolling basis and encourage candidates to apply as soon as possible.

**Salary**

Salary range is \$61,600 to \$78,400 based on years of relevant experience and LAJC's formal salary scale.

**Benefits**

Our mission is compelling, and our team members are passionate about their work, and so we recognize the need to provide generous benefits and encourage rest and a healthy work environment. For example, we provide:

- Generous paid time off every year, including 3 to 6 weeks of vacation, 12 days of health leave, 6 weeks parental leave, and 14 holidays (not including bonus holidays/rest days allocated as needed)
- 100% employer paid health, dental, and vision insurance, plus excellent family insurance with annual max of \$2,400 premium contribution to LAJC-sponsored health plan
- 403(b) retirement plan with 4% employer contribution (no required match)
- Strong commitment to professional development
- Law school loan repayment assistance and full reimbursement for VA bar and CLE expenses
- Relocation package

**Application Instructions**

Email a cover letter, a legal writing sample, resume, and three references to Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg at [hiring@justice4all.org](mailto:hiring@justice4all.org). If you're able, please submit your application as a single PDF titled "[date submitted in yyyy.mm.dd format][last name][first name][position sought]." Please include "Alexandria Immigration Attorney" in the email subject.

*The Legal Aid Justice Center is an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities,*

*experiences, and communities to apply. The Legal Aid Justice Center is committed to strengthening the voices of our low-income clients, working in collaboration with community partners, and rooting out the inequities that keep people in poverty. We strive to take on the issues that have broad impact on our client communities and to be responsive to client input. Recognizing the particular impact of racism on our clients and staff, we devote special attention to dismantling racial injustice. All applicants must be dedicated to working in and sustaining an environment that enables staff and clients to feel empowered, valued, respected, and safe. In reviewing applications, we look for evidence that applicants have experience and/or thoughtfulness in working with traditionally marginalized populations.*