



ACLU of Arizona Job Opportunity Criminal Justice Litigation Fellow Fall 2018

OVERVIEW

Over the next three years, as part of the ACLU's national Smart Justice Campaign, the ACLU of Arizona will work with state-based partners to engage in an ambitious campaign to substantially reduce the state's incarcerated population, while also keeping communities safe, treating people fairly, and using fiscal resources wisely. The ACLU of Arizona is seeking fellowship applicants, for a one- or two-year fellowship to begin in fall 2018, to focus on building and executing strategic impact litigation to complement its ramped-up policy and advocacy efforts aimed at reducing jail and prison populations by 50 percent and reducing racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Applicants for a sponsored fellowship such as Skadden, Equal Justice Works, or a similar public interest fellowship are encouraged to apply. Internal funding may also be available. The position will be located in the ACLU of Arizona's Phoenix office.

Arizona has the country's sixth highest rate of incarceration, the highest of the Western states. Between 2003 and 2013 the state had the third highest rate of prison population growth in the country, despite the fact that violent crime decreased by 41% and property crime decreased by 53% during that same time. The state's machine of mass incarceration severely limits the ability of people, disproportionately people of color, to participate in the social, political, and economic life of this country.

The ACLU of Arizona's Criminal Justice Litigation Fellow will explore, develop, and execute strategic impact litigation aimed at decreasing Arizona's incarcerated population, complementing the efforts of our policy and advocacy teams, and elevating the messages at the center of our campaign. Potential areas of work for the Criminal Justice Litigation Fellow include right to counsel at bond hearings, wrongful or illegal pre-trial detention based on inability to pay, court fines and fees, juvenile life without parole, and prosecutorial reform, but ACLU of Arizona staff will work with the candidate to develop a proposal for submission. We expect that the fellow will seek opportunities for impact litigation based on both the United States Constitution and Arizona Constitution, as well as public records litigation under Arizona law.

Members of the Class of 2018, current judicial law clerks, or other eligible fellowship applicants are encouraged to apply.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduation from an ABA-accredited law school before starting the fellowship.
- Completion of at least one state bar exam before starting the fellowship.
- Excellent research, writing, and oral communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and manage a varied and demanding workload.
- Ability to work cooperatively with lawyers and other staff members.
- Ability to manage, prioritize, and meet numerous deadlines and diverse responsibilities in a timely and professional manner
- Demonstrated commitment to civil rights and criminal justice issues.
- Experience working with diverse communities.

- A commitment to diversity and respect for differences of race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ability, and socio-economic circumstance.

TO APPLY:

Send a cover letter, resume, transcript, list of three professional references, and a legal writing sample (no more than 5 pages) to: **Gloria Torres, Paralegal, ACLU Foundation of Arizona, Re: Criminal Justice Litigation Fellow, P.O. Box 17148, Phoenix, AZ 85011, or email to: gtorres@acluaz.org. Please list “Criminal Justice Litigation Fellow” in the subject line.** Applications accepted until position is filled. **Please indicate in your cover letter where you found this listing.**

The ACLU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages women, people of color, persons with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals to apply.

The ACLU of Arizona comprises two separate corporate entities, the American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona and the ACLU Foundation of Arizona. Both the American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona and the ACLU Foundation of Arizona have the same overall mission, and share office space and employees. The ACLU has two separate corporate entities in order to do a broad range of work to protect civil liberties.