

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Managing Attorney- Detention
Reports to: Immigrants' Rights Directing Attorney
Bargaining Unit: No
FLSA: Exempt



Position Summary

Centro Legal's immigration practice includes comprehensive, full-service direct representation before USCIS and the immigration courts (EOIR), district court and federal court of appeals. Centro also participates in impact litigation efforts, legal rights education, and local and national advocacy. We specialize in detained and non-detained removal defense, the intersection of immigration and criminal law, affirmative asylum applications, and humanitarian visas.

Primary Responsibilities

Centro Legal is seeking an experienced attorney to assist in the provision of immigration legal services.

Primary duties will include:

- Directly representing individuals, primarily detained but also including non-detained, in removal proceedings before the San Francisco and N. Los Angeles Immigration Courts, Board of Immigration Appeals, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and federal district courts;
- Supervising, mentoring, and ensuring ongoing professional development for staff attorneys, paralegals and legal assistants;
- Preparing and submitting applications, legal briefs, and supporting documents for cases involving asylum, withholding of removal, relief under the Convention Against Torture, U visa, VAWA, adjustment of status with applicable waivers, and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status;
- Visiting and conducting intakes with detained individuals at Bay Area detention centers;
- Conducting Know-Your-Rights presentations to community members;
- Participating in on-site and remote legal clinics offering legal consultations;
- Presenting to and working with community-based organizations on changes in immigration law;
- Collaborating with local, regional, and national partners on policy initiatives, funding, and litigation efforts, as needed;
- Assisting in identifying potential federal litigation cases and advocacy arising from direct services work and assisting in impact litigation efforts in federal district and circuit courts; and
- Assisting in determining appropriate case stories for use in reports, advocacy materials, and public education and providing expert testimony to media on current immigration law and policy topics.

Qualifications

First and foremost, the applicant must profoundly share Centro Legal's mission and vision of social justice. Qualifications include:

- J.D; admitted and in good standing with a State bar;
- Fluency in Spanish required;
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in removal defense, including 3 on behalf of detained individuals and/or individuals with criminal convictions;
- Experience with circuit court appeals and federal habeas litigation preferred;
- Strong leadership skills and experience managing other attorneys and staff;
- Experience working with individuals suffering from mental illness is helpful;
- Excellent writing, research, analytical, and verbal communication skills;
- A demonstrated commitment to civil liberties, immigrant justice, and public interest law;
- A record of moving legal cases forward and demonstrated ability to build and manage a heavy caseload;
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively on projects with lawyers, other staff members, and diverse community organizations;
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity within the office and a personal approach that values all individuals and respects differences regarding race, ethnicity, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religion, ability, socio-economic circumstance, immigration status, and record of arrest or conviction;
- Familiarity in working with clients in crisis or who are recent trauma survivors; and
- Willingness to conduct training and outreach activities in the community.

Compensation

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. We provide a generous benefits package, including life insurance, LTD, leave policies, vacation, and December holiday office closure at full pay.

To Apply

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Submit via email only: 1) cover letter, 2) resume, and 3) a list of three professional references. Include “**Immigrants’ Rights Managing Attorney – Detention**” in the subject line. Please email application materials directly to jobs@centrolegal.org

POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED

About Centro Legal de la Raza

Founded in 1969 and headquartered in Oakland, California, Centro Legal de la Raza (Centro Legal) is a comprehensive legal services and advocacy organization protecting and advancing the rights of immigrant, low-income, and Latino communities through bilingual representation, education, and advocacy. We combine quality legal services with know-your-rights education, affirmative litigation, and youth development, ensuring access to justice for thousands of individuals and families each year throughout Northern and Central California.

For more information, visit our website: <https://centrolegal.org/>

Diversity Statement

Centro Legal’s mission includes advancing social, economic and racial justice. We are committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion within and ensuring a workplace where all staff can flourish and grow professionally and well beyond. Our staff are the most

important part of our ability to achieve our mission. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only our culture, but our reputation, sustainability and our organization's success. Centro Legal is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, pregnancy), gender, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, medical condition including genetic characteristics, mental or physical disability, military or veteran status, marital status, family responsibilities, caregiver status, sexual orientation, gender identity (including transgender status), gender expression, weight, height, linguistic characteristics (such as accent and limited English proficiency where not substantially job-related), citizenship status, status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, HIV/AIDS status, or any other basis prohibited by law. Centro also prohibits discrimination based on a perception that an individual has any of the characteristics of the protected classes listed above, and further prohibits discrimination against an individual who is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of those characteristics.