



# PUBLIC JUSTICE

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## IMPACT. CHANGE.

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### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**Please post and inform potential applicants.**

**May 2020**

### **GENDER AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE LITIGATION FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR FALL 2021**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (preferred) or OAKLAND, CA**

**Public Justice** is a public interest legal advocacy organization dedicated to pursuing high impact lawsuits to combat social and economic injustice, protect the Earth's sustainability, and challenge predatory corporate conduct and government abuses. Our Gender and Sexual Violence (GSV) Project invites rising third-year law students and recent law graduates to apply for an opportunity to work with us as a legal Fellow. We seek to host a candidate to apply for one- or two-year public interest fellowships from funders such as Skadden, Equal Justice Works, and/or Justice Catalyst to begin in the fall of 2021.

#### **Public Justice Overview**

Public Justice specializes in high-impact, cutting-edge litigation. Our lawsuits fight for consumers' and victims' rights; the environment; a just, sustainable, and accountable animal agriculture industry; civil rights and civil liberties; workers' rights; and government and corporate accountability. Our Gender and Sexual Violence Project is one of several substantive areas of our work, which also include our Debtors' Prison, Food, Environmental Enforcement, and Access to Justice Projects.

#### **GSV Project Overview**

Public Justice's GSV Project uses litigation and advocacy to address the many forms of gender violence that occur in schools and ensure survivors' access to education. We represent students at all stages of litigation, including pre-suit negotiations, litigation in the trial courts, and appeals. We also engage in policy and media advocacy on issues that affect our clients and collaborate with other advocates, including student organizers.

#### **The Fellowship**

The Fellow would work on litigation and advocacy with Public Justice's staff attorneys, a network of lawyers who collaborate on Public Justice's work, other public interest groups, and our communications staff. The Fellow would also meet with clients and help develop materials to educate the public and the bar about their work. We are particularly interested in hosting a Fellow to work on one of the following two projects, or a combination:

- 1) **School dating violence.** Due, in part, to Public Justice's work, courts are beginning to recognize dating violence as a form of sex-based harassment that schools have responsibilities to address

under Title IX. The Fellow would represent student survivors of dating violence to vindicate their individual rights and establish rights that will benefit other victims.

- 2) **Harassment of LGBTQ students.** The Fellow would represent students harassed on the basis of their sexuality or gender identity. This work will be particularly important in light of the Supreme Court's upcoming decision as to whether Title VII prohibits anti-LGBTQ discrimination. The Fellow would either build on a favorable ruling or work to mitigate the damage of a bad opinion.

## Qualifications

- J.D. degree (by Fall 2021).
- Excellent analytical, legal research, legal writing, and speaking skills.
- Litigation experience (e.g., from internships, clinics, or clerkships).
- Ability to juggle multiple tasks at a time and work in a fast-paced environment.
- Self-motivation and proven ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Sensitivity to the needs and concerns of, and ability to work well with, individuals and groups from diverse cultures, backgrounds, and orientations.
- Excellent attention to detail and commitment to follow-through.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Healthy sense of outrage and desire to change the world for the better.
- Experience in civil rights litigation and/or anti-sexual harassment advocacy, including under Title IX, is preferred.

We offer a mission-focused work environment and a teamwork approach. Salary will depend in part on the specific grant that funds the Fellow, but will be no less than \$53,000. We also provide excellent benefits, including two weeks of paid vacation, two weeks of sick leave, two personal days each year, all federal holidays, employer-paid health, dental, and vision insurance premiums, and a 401(k) plan. Employment is contingent upon the receipt of a fellowship from a funder such as Skadden, Equal Justice Works, or Justice Catalyst.

## Applications

Public Justice is an equal opportunity employer and values a diverse workplace. We strongly encourage applications from people with disabilities; people of color, including bilingual and bicultural individuals; LGBTQ individuals; people of all genders; veterans; and people of all ages. Public Justice is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities. If you are a qualified individual with a disability and need assistance applying online, please email [lawfellow@publicjustice.net](mailto:lawfellow@publicjustice.net). If you are selected for an interview, you will receive additional information regarding how to request an accommodation for the interview process.

Your application should consist of two electronic files: (1) your cover letter, resume, law school transcript, and references in a single .pdf file; and (2) a writing sample in another .pdf file, comprised of a legal brief or persuasive memo for which you were the primary author (please note the contributions of others). In your cover letter, please specify whether you are applying to work in the Washington, D.C. or Oakland, CA office. Candidates applying to work in D.C. are preferred.

Please send your application to [lawfellow@publicjustice.net](mailto:lawfellow@publicjustice.net). Reference "2021 GSV Project Fellowship Sponsorship" in the subject line. The application deadline is **June 15, 2020**. For more information on Public Justice, please visit our website at [www.publicjustice.net](http://www.publicjustice.net).