



**PUBLIC JUSTICE**  
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## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**Please post and inform potential applicants.**

**May 2023**

### **SPONSORSHIP FOR STUDENTS' CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT LEGAL FELLOWSHIP STARTING FALL 2024 WASHINGTON, DC, OAKLAND, CA, or REMOTE**

**Public Justice** is a nonprofit legal advocacy organization that takes on the biggest systemic threats to justice of our time—abusive corporate power and predatory practices, the assault on civil rights, and the destruction of the earth's sustainability. It connects high impact litigation with strategic communications and the strength of our partnerships to fight these abusive and discriminatory systems and win social and economic justice.

Our Students' Civil Rights Project (SCRP) invites rising third-year law students and law graduates to apply for an opportunity to work with us as a legal fellow on cutting-edge litigation and advocacy related to discrimination in schools. 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 2024.

#### **Students' Civil Rights Project Overview**

Public Justice's SCRP uses litigation and advocacy to address harassment, discriminatory discipline, and other forms of sex- and race-based discrimination in schools so all students can learn and thrive. We represent students at all stages of litigation, including pre-suit negotiations, litigation in trial courts, appeals, and oppositions to cert petitions. Some of our ongoing and recent matters include:

- *Shelby v. Huntsville City Board of Education*, a case on behalf of the parents of a student who died by suicide after experiencing anti-LGBTQ harassment and race discrimination at school
- *Brown v. State of Arizona*, a Ninth Circuit en banc appeal, brought on behalf of a student survivor of intimate partner violence, concerning whether a school can be liable for causing a student to be abused by a classmate in an off-campus residence
- *K.R. v. Duluth Public Schools Academy*, a suit on behalf of young Black students challenging systemic anti-Black harassment and discriminatory discipline at a charter school system
- *Doe v. Crestwood Public Schools*, an administrative complaint on behalf of a young gender-fluid student who experienced discriminatory discipline and harassment

- Doe v. Fairfax County School Board, a successful Fourth Circuit appeal on behalf of a student survivor of sexual assault, and a subsequent successful opposition to a cert petition, concerning the meaning of Title IX's notice requirement

We also engage in policy and media advocacy on issues that affect our clients, create educational materials for students, families, and lawyers, and collaborate with other advocates, including student organizers.

### **The Fellowship**

Consistent with their funded project, the Fellow would work on litigation and advocacy with SCRP's staff attorneys, as well as a network of lawyers who collaborate on Public Justice's work, other public interest groups, and our communications staff. The Fellow would also be responsible for conducting intakes and helping develop materials to educate the public and the bar about their work. We are particularly interested in hosting a Fellow whose project focuses on anti-trans harassment, discriminatory discipline based on race and/or gender, or other forms of race and/or LGBTQ discrimination, though we are open to project proposals outside this scope. This is an exempt position and will report to a Senior Attorney or Staff Attorney. We will work closely with the selected candidate to craft an appropriate project proposal for fellowship applications.

### **Qualifications**

- J.D. degree (by Fall 2024).
- Admission to a state bar or pending admission by Fall 2024.
- 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 litigation is preferred.
- Willingness to travel on occasion.
- Strong preference for candidates who would work on Eastern Time, like the rest of the SCRP team.

We offer a mission-focused work environment and a teamwork approach. We offer healthy work-life balance policies, including operating on a **four-day workweek year-round**. We also offer a generous benefits package, including three weeks of paid vacation, two weeks of sick leave, and two personal days each year, all federal holidays, employer-paid health, dental and vision insurance premiums, and a 401(k) plan. The annual salary will be \$70,000. Employment is contingent upon the receipt of funding from Skadden, Equal Justice Works, Justice Catalyst, or a similar funder in an amount no less than \$50,000 per year.

### **Applications**

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, DC office, Oakland,

CA office, or remotely. Your cover letter should also describe any ideas you have for a funded project and/or what type of project you would be most interested in.

Please send your application to [lawfellow@publicjustice.net](mailto:lawfellow@publicjustice.net). Reference "2024 SCRP Fellowship" in the subject line. The application deadline is **June 15, 2023**, at which point applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

**Public Justice EEO Statement**

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 require reasonable accommodations during any part of the hiring process, please email [mmediavilla@publicjustice.net](mailto:mmediavilla@publicjustice.net).

For more information on Public Justice, please visit our website at [www.publicjustice.net](http://www.publicjustice.net).