



**Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.**  
**Litigation Director**

The Georgia Advocacy Office (“GAO”) seeks a Litigation Director with demonstrated significant complex systemic litigation experience in federal court to develop, litigate, and supervise groundbreaking cases that advance the rights of adults and children with disabilities. The GAO is an independent, private non-profit organization that is the designated Protection and Advocacy System for people with disabilities in Georgia. Protection and Advocacy (“P & A”) Systems are mandated under federal law to protect people with disabilities from abuse and neglect and to advocate for the human and legal rights of people with disabilities. GAO employs a broad range of advocacy strategies, from supporting self-advocacy to legal advocacy, to fulfill this mandate. GAO is a national leader in promoting community integration and self-determination for people with disabilities. GAO’s staff includes 25 attorneys, advocates, and other professionals.

GAO’s current litigation priorities include the following: implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act’s (“ADA”) integration mandate in *U.S. v. Georgia* as counsel and part of the amici; securing an inclusive education for children with disabilities in the *U.S. v. Georgia* GNETS (the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support) case by leading the advocacy effort to facilitate the negotiations or enforcement actions necessary to end segregation in the classroom; and enforcing entitlements under the Medicaid Act.

The GAO Litigation Director will engage in, and supervise, individual and systemic advocacy and legal representation on behalf of people with disabilities who are subject to abuse or neglect, who are institutionalized or segregated, or who are at risk of institutionalization or segregation.

**Required Qualifications**

- Licensed attorney admitted to the Georgia State Bar (or ability to waive into the Georgia State Bar within six months of hire date).
- Demonstrated significant experience with complex systemic litigation in federal courts, including motion practice, depositions and other discovery, use of expert witnesses, and hearings or trials.
- Demonstrated experience supervising attorneys.
- Demonstrated ability to handle multiple difficult or complex cases or matters at the same time.
- Demonstrated ability to manage a significant docket and ensure that applicable deadlines are met.
- Demonstrated mentoring skills.
- Demonstrated negotiation skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including the ability to communicate effectively with diverse groups of people.
- Ability to travel throughout the state of Georgia.
- Ability to pass a background check.

## Preferred Qualifications

- Sense of identification with people with disabilities and a demonstrated commitment to the rights of people with disabilities.
- Working familiarity with federal and state disability-related statutes and regulations, such as the federal statutes governing protection and advocacy systems, the regulations and case law relating to the *Olmstead* decision, the Medicaid Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act, the Fair Housing Act, civil commitment, and alternatives to guardianship.
- Knowledge and strong commitment to the improvement of the quality of life and protection of rights for people with disabilities in the state of Georgia.
- Background in social role valorization and related training.
- Well-connected with national leading disability rights attorneys and organizations, as well as with Georgia state and local law firms who have a commitment to public interest and pro bono cases.
- Experience representing people with disabilities.

Salary range is up to \$130,000 and is commensurate with qualifications and experience. GAO provides excellent benefits, such as health insurance, 403B plan, paid vacation and holidays, and payment of bar dues and CLE courses. GAO is located in downtown Decatur, Georgia, a vibrant community minutes from downtown Atlanta. GAO is an equal opportunity employer committed to having a diverse workforce. Applicants with disabilities and members of other minority groups are encouraged to apply.

To apply, please submit a cover letter explaining your qualifications for the position, a resume, a list of references, and two writing samples to:

[info@thegao.org](mailto:info@thegao.org)

or by mail to:

Litigation Director Search  
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