

Civil Rights Legal Internship - 2017/2018 School Year

The Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs provides legal assistance to individuals and communities in the Washington, DC region who experience violations of their civil rights. The Committee brings litigation and engages in policy advocacy to address discrimination in its many forms.

The Committee seeks law students with a demonstrated commitment to civil rights, racial justice, and anti-poverty advocacy for internships during each semester of the 2017-2018 school year.

Internship Description: Law student interns with the Committee obtain hands-on experience investigating and litigating civil rights matters. Interns will receive extensive training in civil rights law and regular supervision and feedback. Each intern will work primarily in one of the following areas during his/her semester or school year-long internship:

- **Workplace Justice:** Equal access to jobs and fair wages is critical for individuals and families to be economically stable. The Committee challenges illegal discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in the workplace. We also assist workers with claims related to wage theft, unemployment compensation, and workers' compensation. We run Workers' Rights Clinics seven times per month in which interns will have the opportunity to participate. Many of our clients are immigrants and people with limited or no English proficiency.
- **Housing Justice:** The Committee fights against racial and economic segregation and the discrimination that limits people's housing choices. We challenge housing discrimination based on classes protected under federal, state, and local fair housing laws. We also work with clients and community organizations to preserve affordable housing in the region.
- **Disability Rights:** Everyone should be able to access public services and participate in the economy. The Committee litigates disability rights matters relating to public accommodations, transportation services, employment, technology, and more.
- **Prisoners' Rights:** People confined to prisons, jails, and detention centers are confronted with a unique and particularly cruel form of state power. The Committee advocates for the humane treatment of incarcerated DC citizens and defends the rights of DC prisoners to parole.
- **Criminal Justice Reform:** The Committee works to reduce the impact of an unfair criminal justice system that drives inequality. We combat the race bias embedded in the system, including the effects of collateral consequences of convictions. We also represent people who are the subject of abuse, discrimination, harassment, or other illegal and unconstitutional treatment by police officers.

Qualifications: Law school interns should have a demonstrated commitment to public interest work and strong written communication and organizational skills. 2Ls and 3Ls are preferred, but 1Ls with outstanding qualifications will be considered. Interns must be able to commit to at least ten weeks with the Committee. All interns except those focusing on prisoners' rights must be available Thursday mornings from 9:30–11:00 am (other hours are flexible).

Salary: Legal internships are unpaid. The Committee encourages interns to apply for outside funding or school credit.

Application Instructions: Internship selection will be conducted on a rolling basis. To submit an application, please send an email with (1) a cover letter indicating which area(s) you would like to focus on during your internship, (2) your resume, (3) an unofficial transcript, and (4) a 4-7 page writing sample to internships@washlaw.org, subject "Fall 2017 Internship Application of (Your Name)."

The Committee is an Equal Opportunity employer.