



Centro Legal de la Raza

*Working for Justice
Strengthening Community
Since 1969*

Centro Legal de la Raza Seeks Immigration Litigation Director

The Organization: Founded in 1969 and located in Oakland, California, Centro Legal de la Raza (Centro Legal) is a comprehensive legal services agency focused on strengthening low-income, immigrant, and Latino families and individuals by providing bilingual and culturally competent legal representation, education, and advocacy. The mission of Centro Legal is to protect and expand the rights of low-income people and promote access to justice for thousands of individuals and families each year throughout Northern and Central California.

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 litigation, legal rights education, local and national advocacy. We specialize in detained and non-detained removal defense, the intersection of immigration and criminal law, affirmative asylum applications, and U visas for victims of violent crime.

The Position: Centro Legal is seeking an experienced immigration attorney to help expand our immigration litigation legal services. Duties will include:

- Working with Immigration Director, Immigration managing and senior attorneys to develop vision and overall strategy for Centro Legal's immigration litigation efforts;
- Identifying potential federal litigation cases arising from direct services work and leading impact litigation efforts in federal district and circuit courts: for in house representation and/or placement with pro bono attorneys and with other non-profit litigation partners;
- Investigate and litigate appellate, district court cases and class action cases: includes fact-finding, legal research, drafting pleadings and briefs, discovery and motion practice, hearings and trials, and appearing in in both state and federal courts;
- Supervising legal staff and providing mentorship, and ensuring ongoing professional development;
- Managing day-to-day operations of immigration litigation program;
- Reviewing, commenting on, and drafting amicus briefs;
- Reviewing and commenting on draft legislation;
- Engaging in public speaking with a variety of audiences; may include media interviews, panels at conferences, CLE conference organizing, and in other speaking engagements.
- 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;
- Coordinate media outreach and responses regarding litigation and legal priorities in collaboration with Immigration Director and Communications staff

Qualifications: First and foremost, the applicant must profoundly share Centro Legal’s mission and vision of social justice. Below are additional qualifications:

- J.D. and good standing with a State Bar, with a minimum of 10 years civil litigation experience, with a strong background in immigration law.
- 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 an extensive caseload;
- Excellent strategic thinking abilities and discernment for litigation opportunities;
- Strong leadership skills, preferably with experience managing other attorneys and staff;
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively on projects with lawyers, other staff members, and with 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.

Compensation and Benefits: Salary commensurate with background and experience plus medical, dental, FSA, and 401(k) benefits. Generous vacation and holiday package.

Applications: 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 to jobs@centrolegal.org. Place these words in the subject line “Immigration Litigation Director.”

Centro Legal de la Raza is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, disability, gender, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or any other prohibited category. Centro Legal de la Raza is an affirmative action employer and strongly encourages women, people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ, older persons, persons with disabilities and all qualified persons to apply.

POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED