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Seeking Applicants for Staff Attorney to serve Greater Hartford
February 2017

The Connecticut Veterans Legal Center (CVLC) supports veterans in recovery by helping them overcome legal barriers to housing and income. CVLC and VA Connecticut's Errera Community Care Center created the country's first VA medical-legal partnership to integrate legal help into VA mental health, housing and addiction services. CVLC staff helps veterans resolve their legal issues through advice, representation and referral to a large number of volunteer attorneys. Since 2009, CVLC's high quality legal services have helped almost 2000 veterans rebuild the fulfilling lives they deserve.

CVLC seeks a staff attorney to serve veterans in the Greater Hartford area. Responsibilities will include meeting with veterans at the VA's Newington campus and other partnering social service providers in the Greater Hartford region; providing advice, pro bono referral and full representation to veterans in a variety of legal areas including landlord tenant, child support, VA and SSA claims, military records corrections, and consumer/student debt. Although CVLC currently serves clients at VA Newington, the staff attorney would be responsible for building strong working relationships with VA care providers working in medical-legal partnership to resolve health-harming legal needs. The staff attorney would also share responsibility with CVLC's staff to recruit, train and support volunteer attorneys representing veterans with a focus on the firms and volunteers in the Greater Hartford Region. Because this is a newly created position, it offers the opportunity for an ambitious attorney to enjoy autonomy in building a more robust medical-legal partnership and improving CVLC's already excellent pro bono programming. This position is currently funded for one year, with funding for future years likely.

Admission to or the ability to waive into the CT Bar immediately, a valid drivers' license and access to a vehicle in order to meet with clients across CT, are all required.

The office environment is client-centered, hard-working, creative, democratic, outcome-oriented and collegial. The ideal candidate is open, organized, collaborative, self-directed and comfortable working independently. Experience with VA administrative law, landlord-tenant, consumer, family, criminal, benefits and/or other areas of poverty law, experience working with veterans, the homeless and/or the mentally ill, and/or experience with the military and/or military law would be beneficial. If you loathe the idea of addressing your own envelopes, faxing your own documents or folding chairs after an event, this is not the job for you; we all do windows here.

As physical space is tight and office amenities are sparse, someone with an easy-going, adventurous attitude towards work would be the best fit. This job is for someone who enjoys learning and helping people, seeks meaningful work that involves widely different skills and is interested in taking on considerable responsibility at a young organization with an important mission. Salary is based on experience and is commensurate with other public interest law jobs. Benefits include health insurance, generous paid vacation and sick leave and a family-friendly workplace.

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To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, three references, a legal writing sample and a sample of professional correspondence (letter or email) to the CVLC's Executive Director Margaret Middleton at applicants@ctveteranslegal.org. Please do not hesitate to email with questions. The position is open until filled; we anticipate that it will be filled quickly, so please send your materials as soon as possible.