Elder Victim Staff Attorney Position (Philadelphia)
2 openings available immediately

Background:

Founded in 1978, SeniorLAW Center is a dynamic, nonprofit public interest legal services organization with its mission to seek justice for older people by using the power of the law, educating the community and advocating on local, state and national levels. We are the only non-profit agency in Pennsylvania, and one of few in the nation wholly dedicated to providing legal assistance and protecting the legal rights of older persons. SeniorLAW Center prioritizes its services to older people who are low-income, cultural and racial minorities, disabled, victims of crime and family violence, and/or facing other vulnerabilities and challenges. We fight senior poverty, fraud and homelessness, provide protection from elder abuse and financial exploitation, enable grandparents to raise grandchildren, and improve access to justice.

Job Overview:

This is a full-time attorney position. The attorney will provide representation, education and advocacy for elder victims. Experience in a legal services office and in aging and/or poverty law, working with senior citizens, minority, low-income and/or Limited English Proficient communities are all important foundations for this position, based in Center City Philadelphia.

This position requires a highly professional, organized, energetic, flexible, confident, and culturally sensitive attorney to provide direct legal services to seniors. Job responsibilities include providing client intake and direct client services in and out of court, including civil representation and litigation and in-person and telephone legal counseling. Courtroom experience and appearances are required. The attorney will also participate in community education, professional training and advocacy initiatives, attend staff and coalition meetings, and participate in special projects with and as a representative of the SeniorLAW Center team.

All members of the SeniorLAW Center team participate in resource development and fundraising initiatives, events, writing, and reporting, as we foster a culture of philanthropy that supports our work for older people. Reports to: Director, Victim Services and Assistant Director, Victim Services.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

A. Client Representation
a. Provide individual legal advice over the phone and in person. Gather any additional information to render legal opinion or to take case as an extended representation.

b. Provide civil legal assistance, including filing and pursuing protection from abuse petitions (for homebound, disabled and frail senior victims) and related litigation, revocation and replacement of powers of attorney, filing of and representing victims of financial exploitation and abuse in other civil legal matters arising directly out of the victimization to ensure the economic security of the client, including ejectment actions, landlord tenant matters, reverse mortgage foreclosures, spousal support actions, kinship/custody matters, debt collection and consumer issues. Analyze all available civil remedies and options and discuss and pursue as client desires.

c. Provide information about how any criminal proceedings may impact civil litigation. Where required, work with police and Assistant District Attorneys in pursuit of prosecution of matter.

d. Assess holistic legal needs of clients and where necessary refer to appropriate legal resources to attend to those legal needs. Where other programs within SeniorLAW Center can address these legal needs, refer to the appropriate project within SeniorLAW Center.

e. Work with elder victim legal advocate to provide appropriate safety planning; including other legal tools necessary to ensure the safety of the victim.

f. Assist in preparing informational brochures for clients.

g. Complete required paperwork/case management software records on all cases and referrals.

B. Community Education
a. Develop and present legal education workshops to senior citizens to prevent victimization, identify victims and promote self-identification and provide or refer them to needed services.

b. Plan, organize and carry out special outreach events.

c. Coordination with elder victim legal advocate and Director, Victim Services to update website, E-News and other communication tools.

C. Additional Responsibilities
a. Participate in weekly case review meetings and other staff meetings.

b. Represent SeniorLAW Center at victim coalition, Bar Association, public interest law and other task force and victim service organization meetings as needed.

c. Pursue and participate in special legal and organizational initiatives and projects as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be an active member of the Pennsylvania Bar in good standing;
- At least two (2) years of civil litigation experience, with direct experience in mortgage foreclosure, property tax and/or probate;
- Good computer, research, writing and public speaking skills;
- Excellent advocacy and negotiating skills, good organizational and interpersonal skills.
• Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects and deadlines;
• Commitment to serving vulnerable and diverse communities required;
• Creative problem solving is a must;
• Ability to work under pressure;
• Ability to work well as a team and individually;
• Highest degree of professionalism is required.

This is a full-time position (40 hours/week). Excellent benefits, including 401k, flexible spending plan, generous holidays and leave time. Salary range, commensurate with experience: mid to upper 60s). All applications should include cover letter, resume and at least three (3) professional references. Please include a writing sample. SeniorLAW Center has a Mandatory Vaccine Policy for all staff and volunteers.

Please apply by email to attention of Dana N. Goldberg, Esq., Legal Director, at employment@seniorlawcenter.org. No phone calls please.

SeniorLAW Center is an equal opportunity employer, that values and seeks diversity and inclusion in all aspects of its work. Persons from diverse backgrounds and orientations are encouraged to apply.