

March 18, 2022

## **Job Announcement: Senior Attorney, Impact Litigation Tenant Justice Program**

Rising for Justice (“RFJ”) invites applications for an experienced litigator to begin working immediately in our Tenant Justice Program (“TJP”). The attorney selected for this position will develop, and, in appropriate circumstances, serve as co-counsel in lawsuits crafted to prevent eviction and displacement of tenants on a building-wide or other high-impact basis. The attorney will work in partnership with experts in our local legal services community and collaborate with pro bono counsel at area law firms. This full-time position is supported by a dedicated paralegal and represents a key part of an innovative one-year pilot program that we anticipate extending assuming continued funding.

### **About Rising for Justice**

Created in 1969, RFJ, formerly known as D.C. Law Students in Court (“LSIC”), is the oldest clinical legal education program in the District of Columbia. RFJ currently operates as a public interest legal services provider and clinical education program. Our mission is to leverage the collective forces of students and experienced advocates to achieve justice for all.

RFJ embraces equal justice and diversity as core values. We strive to maintain a workplace that is vibrant, welcoming, innovative, and collaborative. We are committed to fostering the thoughtful exchange of ideas and to ensuring that all voices are heard and respected. We seek a skilled and experienced litigator who embraces our mission and values. Our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and non-discrimination includes race, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, personal appearance, genetic information, political affiliation, marital status, family responsibilities, disability, status as a veteran, and any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law or regulation.

### **The Tenant Justice Program**

The Tenant Justice Program seeks to prevent the displacement of low-income tenants in the District of Columbia and preserve tenants’ rights. TJP attorneys and law students from area law schools represent tenants in the District of Columbia’s courts and administrative agencies in cases involving evictions,

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housing conditions, rent stabilization, and other matters related to enforcing tenants' rights.

### **Position Responsibilities**

Responsibilities include:

- 1) Developing and overseeing structured case record review processes to identify patterns and practices likely to result in multiple evictions, self-evictions, and displacement;
- 2) Developing and implementing litigation and investigative strategies to address unlawful practices in collaboration with experts in the local legal community;
- 3) Recruiting pro bono counsel to serve as lead counsel or co-counsel in select cases;
- 4) Providing direct representation pre-trial, at trial and on appeal on co-counsel basis in select cases;
- 5) Training and supervising law students, legal interns and TJP attorneys; and
- 6) Collaborating with community partners.

### **Qualification Requirements**

The senior attorney must be a member of the D.C. Bar (preferred) or eligible to waive into the D.C. Bar and have a minimum of eight years of substantial complex litigation experience, including federal court litigation experience; excellent interpersonal, writing and oral communication skills; strong organizational skills; the ability to work independently and collaboratively; a strong work ethic; a client-centered approach to advocacy. Experience working in a non-profit environment with private law firm volunteers is preferred.

**COVID-19 Statement:** Rising for Justice requires all staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 except those staff who are entitled to a reasonable accommodation due to a medical disability or sincerely held religious belief under the law.

**Accountability:** Reports to Director of the Tenant Justice Program.

**Hours, Salary and Benefits:** This is a full-time position based on a 40-hour work week. Salary is commensurate with experience. We offer a competitive salary with an excellent benefits package, including employer-paid medical, dental, and vision insurance; generous sick, annual and personal leave; and paid federal and local holidays.

**To Apply:** Each candidate should submit a cover letter and resume by email to Julia Cade, at [hiring@risingforjustice.org](mailto: hiring@risingforjustice.org). Please indicate "Senior Attorney, Impact Litigation, [your full name]" in the subject line of the email.

**Application Deadline:** Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.