THE SJLF FELLOWSHIP

Are you a 3L or recent law school grad who is passionate about social justice and seeking to develop leadership and litigation skills in pursuit of civil rights? Come join our small and dynamic team! The Social Justice Legal Foundation is hiring for two-year fellowship positions, in partnership with Columbia, Howard, and Yale Law schools.

ABOUT US

Our startup nonprofit is driven by a dual mission: we train the next generation of civil rights lawyers, and we bring impactful and precedent-setting cases to fight oppression in the carceral system and beyond.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Application Deadline: December 9, 2022

Application Materials Include: cover letter, resume, 2 letters of recommendation, short essay questions, and an unofficial transcript.

For more information, please visit our website: www.socialjusticelaw.org/sjlf-now-accepting-applications-for-the-2023-fellowship-class/
Memorandum

Date    September 13, 2022

To:      SJLF Prospective Fellows

From:    Shubhra Shivpuri
          Executive Director

Re:      SJLF Fellowship Posting for 2023 Class

The Social Justice Legal Foundation (SJLF) Fellowship Program:

Our startup nonprofit is driven by a dual mission: we train the next generation of civil rights lawyers, and we bring impactful and precedent-setting cases to fight oppression in the carceral system and beyond. We work closely with leading trial litigators, academics, and our grassroots, community, and movement partners to develop and lead our cases—and to intensively train our fellows. We leverage our private sector-backing, our independence, and our upstart momentum to bring aggressive trial-level cases in under resourced areas of California and around the country. As a novel organization fueled by our fellows, we bring fresh perspectives to some of the most intractable issues. We collaborate with law schools across the country, including Columbia, Howard, Northwestern, Stanford, UCLA, and Yale law schools to identify pressing legal issues and to mentor and develop our fellows to join the fight for civil rights.

SJLF has positions for six fellows (one from each of our six participating law schools, taken on a rotating cycle – 3 students from 3 schools per class) to join our team for two years. Fellows will work with the legal team at SJLF to develop cases, work alongside the community, receive top caliber training, and gain meaningful hands-on trial experience litigating impactful cases with the resources of a top law firm. SJLF is looking for individuals who are committed to effecting lasting social justice and are seeking to develop leadership and litigation skills in pursuit of equality and equity. SJLF is currently focusing our efforts on combatting the injustices of the carceral system.

Application materials include the following:
1. Resume
2. 2 Letters of Recommendation (preferably one letter should be from an employer or clinical instructor).
3. Please answer the following short essay questions (no more than 500 words per essay):
   a. Why are you passionate about social justice work?
   b. What do you see as the pros and cons of working at a brand new organization, and why, specifically, do you want to join this organization?
   c. Describe an aspect of the carceral system that most troubles you, and what a case challenging the practice or policy you identify might look like.
4. Unofficial Law School Transcript
Please email applications to our Operations Manager, Kevin McKinnon, kmckinnon@socialjusticelaw.org.

SJLF’s Executive Director will be visiting Columbia, Howard, and Yale University in September 2022 to meet with interested 3Ls and recent graduates.

Relevant Deadlines:
Applications open: September 1, 2022
Application deadline: December 9, 2022
Interviews will take place January 2023
Offer Letters will be sent out end of January to beginning of February 2023

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