

# **Staff Attorney position**

## **St. Johns County Legal Aid, branch office of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc.**

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing legal assistance and advocacy for low-income individuals and families. We work to ensure access to justice and fair treatment in the areas of housing, consumer rights, and other essential legal services. St. Johns County Legal Aid is a branch office of JALA.

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

JALA seeks a zealous Florida licensed attorney to provide legal representation and advocacy to clients facing issues in landlord-tenant eviction court and consumer law. The attorney will work closely with clients to prevent evictions, secure housing rights, and address consumer debt and financial legal issues. This position requires a strong commitment to social justice and the ability to work with vulnerable populations. *This is a full-time role based in St. Johns County Legal Aid.*

### **ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Embrace and support JALA's mission, standards, policies and procedures, and confidentiality guidelines.
- Maintain a commitment and sensitivity to problems of economically disadvantaged and vulnerable populations.
- Perform intake interviews of applicants and assist in screening regarding eligibility for representation.
- Maintain a caseload commensurate with abilities in order to provide full and effective legal representation and advocacy in both consumer law and housing law matters.
- Maintain and grow knowledge in a specialized area of law, and competence in related areas of law, relevant to housing and consumer advocacy.
- Comply with all applicable regulations, policies, and grant requirements.
- Support, promote and participate in community education, outreach; develop good public relations with client community, state and local bar, and other community groups.
- Ensure that all applicable client files, data, and reports are accurate and complete.
- Perform other duties and projects as needed to support JALA's mission.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Member in good standing of The Florida Bar.
- Civil trial practice experience in law school clinical setting and/or law firm.
- Some basic familiarity with family law preferred.
- Strong organizational skills and ability to effectively communicate verbally and in writing.
- Ability to effectively engage a diverse constituency of individuals and community stakeholders.
- Demonstrate resourcefulness and ability to take initiative in development and completion of projects.
- Computer literate includes proficiency in Google and Microsoft applications.

### **What you get when you come to JALA**

JALA is the premier litigation legal aid firm in the Southeastern United States. We are mission driven, and our team makes a difference in our community. As a JALA employee, you can expect immediate hands-on experience interviewing and counseling clients as well as litigating cases in Federal and State court. Staff are expected to

take on challenging cases for our at-risk clients while being mentored and supported in taking on such cases. While there is a premium placed on initiative and self-motivation, you can expect to be supervised by lawyers who are recognized as subject matter experts in their field (JALA is the only law firm in Florida with three Florida Bar Consumer Protection Lawyers of the Year on staff, for example.) Our lawyers and paralegals regularly serve on local and statewide committees, and our lawyers have gone on to become hearing officers, magistrates, judges and administrative law judges. In addition to the opportunity to litigate early, our lawyers and staff are trusted as professionals - we have adopted a hybrid work environment (although not all positions are able to work remotely.) Regardless of what others may prefer, we embrace diversity and inclusion as a way to ensure we are the most prepared to offer the best and highest level of representation for our clients, as this is what they deserve from us.

### **Salary/Benefits**

Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits package include, but are not limited to, medical, dental, vision, long-term disability insurance, group life insurance, hybrid remote work, and generous leave policy (e.g., 13 paid holidays plus 22 personal leave days in first year, one-month sabbatical every four years).

To apply, submit resume, minimum of two professional references. and salary requirements (if any) to:

La Verne Morgan Andreasen, Esq.  
Chief Human Resources Officer  
Jacksonville Area Legal Aid  
126 West Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202  
Email: [resumeattorney@jaxlegalaid.org](mailto:resumeattorney@jaxlegalaid.org)

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid is an Equal Opportunity Employer