

Position**Veterans Legal Corps Fellow**

One Year Term Beginning August 2014. May Be Renewed for a Second Year.

Organization Description

The Public Law Center (PLC), Orange County's *pro bono* law firm, is committed to providing access to justice for low-income residents. Through volunteers and staff, PLC provides free civil legal services, including counseling, individual representation, community education, and strategic litigation and advocacy to challenge societal injustices. Now in its 33rd year of service, PLC works with more than 1,500 volunteer lawyers, paralegals and law students from throughout the county who volunteer their time and expertise.

Qualifications

- Admission to California Bar or awaiting Bar exam results
- Excellent writing and public speaking skills required
- Experience or in representing low-income people in civil litigation or administrative proceedings a strong plus
- Knowledge of government benefits, including SSI/SSDI, preferred.
- Commitment to working with volunteer lawyers and law students
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Must have own transportation, valid CA Driver's license, and good driving record
- Bilingual English/Spanish or English/Vietnamese a plus
- Military service, related military background, or military familiarity a plus.
- Applicant must qualify for service under the AmeriCorps program

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide quality legal services to low-income Orange County Veterans in collaboration with an established team of attorneys
- Provide wrap-around legal services to Veteran clients. Prevent homelessness by defending against evictions; help veterans secure or increase government benefits by advocating for VA disability, SSDI/SSI, and discharge upgrades; increase opportunities for employment by obtaining expungements of criminal records; and increase income by advocating for the reduction of child support arrears.
- Staff, coordinate and supervise legal clinics and trainings on a variety of legal issues that affect veterans.
- Oversee case referrals and provide support to pro bono attorneys.
- Conduct community education presentations to veteran clients and service providers
- Represent PLC at legal networking and community outreach events
- Occasional evening and weekend work required
- Other duties as assigned

Salary & Benefits

- Compensation of up to \$39,450, of which includes a living allowance of \$24,200 and Supplemental Benefits of up to \$15,250
- \$5,550 AmeriCorps Legal Education Award upon successful completion of service
- Student loan forbearance and interest accrual payment for qualified student loans upon successful completion of service
- Health, dental, vision and life insurance provided; State and local Bar dues paid

Please submit Resume, Cover Letter and Writing Sample (10 pages or less) to:

abalta@publiclawcenter.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled