



## **IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ATTORNEY**

### **Central Islip, NY - Full time, Exempt position**

Empire Justice Center, a highly respected, statewide legal services organization, is seeking an Immigrant Rights Attorney to join our team. The Immigrant Rights Attorney will be a critical member of our growing Immigration Practice and will work on the Liberty Defense Project, a recently created initiative funded by the State of New York.

The Immigrant Rights Attorney in the Long Island office will work as a part of a multifaceted team of attorneys and paralegals who provide supportive advocacy and legal services in immigration, public benefits, family law, and housing. Empire Justice Center participates in various coalitions to enhance the rights and protections for immigrants on Long Island. Our advocacy efforts are informed by the direct experiences of our clients. The Immigrants Rights Attorney will be one source of information and inspiration for these ongoing efforts.

The Immigrant Rights Attorney will provide legal counseling and representation for immigrants facing deportation, and direct representation in other immigration law matters to mostly Spanish speaking immigrants on Long Island. The attorney will be based in our Central Islip office and will serve Nassau and Suffolk County residents.

### **Primary responsibilities will include:**

- Providing direct representation to immigrants in:
  - Removal proceedings, including administrative appeals
  - Naturalization and Adjustment of status, including administrative appeals
  - U Visa petitions and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitions, including administrative appeals
  - Asylum applications, both affirmative and defensive
  - Special Immigrant Juvenile Status application and related Family Court proceedings
- Preparing and presenting monthly Know Your Rights trainings to immigrants and community groups across Long Island
- Rapidly responding to enforcement actions on Long Island with legal advice, referrals and in appropriate cases, representation of the immigrant and/or impacted family members

**Candidates for this position will:**

- Be admitted to practice law in New York or have passed the necessary licensing examinations and have applied for admission to practice;
- Have at least one year relevant legal experience; experience representing immigrants as part of a law school legal clinic or other setting may be counted towards this requirement;
- Possess excellent legal writing and analytical skills, able to meet tight deadlines, and capacity to work both independently and as part of a team
- Be experienced in interviewing and counseling clients, preferably in both English and Spanish
- Be willing and able to travel to serve clients in a geographically wide-spread area,

**Bi-lingual in Spanish strongly desired.**

**Salary and Benefits**

Salary is commensurate with experience and based on the organization's salary scale. With five (5) year's experience the starting salary could be \$59,000, depending on experience.

Empire Justice Center offers a generous benefits package, including health insurance, pension and life insurance, vacation, holiday, personal and sick time. We are an organization that supports and encourages a work/life balance.

Empire Justice Center is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and desires a diverse work force. People of color, women, persons with disabilities, persons who are elderly, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender are welcomed and encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. If interested e-mail a cover letter, resume, legal writing sample and contact information for three professional references aware of this application to **employment@empirejustice.org**. Please include **Immigrant Rights Attorney, First/Last Name to the subject line** of the email. No phone calls or hard copies please. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Immigrant Rights Attorney  
[employment@empirejustice.org](mailto:employment@empirejustice.org)