

New Mexico Legal Aid (NMLA) Staff Attorney position available at Native American Program (“NAP”) in Santa Ana

NMLA seeks a staff attorney to represent Native Americans as part of our Native American Program. Currently, NAP has a secretary, three full time staff attorneys, and one managing attorney. Our office is located within the Santa Ana Pueblo lands.

NAP attorneys handle cases and matters in several jurisdictions involving federal Indian law and tribal law issues, including representation of low-income individuals in Pueblo and tribal courts and other forums, which may include family law, consumer law, and criminal law matters. NAP conducts outreach to tribal and Pueblo communities. Additionally, NAP attorneys sometimes handle poverty law issues involving consumer and family law matters in forums other than tribal courts.

NAP does creative, challenging, and complex work in diverse client communities. We are looking for highly motivated candidates who are passionate and strongly committed to helping serve Native American communities, including developing effective team strategies to handle complex advocacy and extended representation cases. The attorney shall be active in relevant bar and community activities. All NMLA staff attorney positions fall under a collective bargaining agreement.

Requirements: Must be licensed in New Mexico or obtain a New Mexico license within six (6) months from date of hire. Must apply for admission to Tribal Courts. Experience with Native American legal issues and communities is highly preferred. At least two years’ experience handling criminal defense cases, especially those arising in tribal or Pueblo Courts, is highly preferred. At least three years of legal practice is preferred. Must be willing and able to travel. Candidates shall have excellent written and oral communication skills, the ability to manage multiple tasks, manage a significant caseload, and build collaborative relationships within the staff and the community. Proficiency in relevant Native American languages is a plus.

Applicants will be subject to a background search. Please do not let this deter you from applying. NMLA is committed to a strong workforce and will review records individually to determine whether a particular record will disqualify.

Send [1] a current resume and [2] a letter of interest explaining what you would like to accomplish if you are selected for this position to: jobs@nmlegalaid.org Priority Deadline: **July 30, 2021, or until filled. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.**