Public Interest Consumer Attorney: Predatory Lending, Banking

The National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) is seeking an experienced attorney to work for economic justice for low-income and other disadvantaged communities. As a member of NCLC’s advocacy staff, the attorney will develop and implement strategies that help promote financial stability and asset preservation, combat exploitative practices, and advance racial justice. The position includes research and writing, training and technical assistance, as well as policy and systemic advocacy at both the national and state levels. Some travel is required for meetings, presentations, and conferences.

NCLC is a nonprofit, public interest advocacy organization that seeks to build economic security and family wealth for low-income and other economically disadvantaged people. NCLC is a leading source of legal and public policy expertise on consumer issues for lawyers, federal and state policymakers, consumer advocates, journalists, and front-line service providers. For more information, please see our website at www.nclc.org.

Currently the majority of NCLC’s staff are working remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This arrangement will continue for the foreseeable future. Ideally this candidate will be based in our Washington, DC Office, but candidates who can work in our Boston office or remotely will be considered.

Areas of Interest
This position will include significant work focused on ensuring that low-income and vulnerable consumers, communities of color, and other disadvantaged communities are not subject to abusive practices or fraud and have access to safe and fair financial services in the areas of small and medium dollar lending, bank accounts and mobile banking apps, new P2P payment services and other payment systems, and predatory non-mortgage lending. The work will include monitoring developments in financial technology (fintech) and new types of bank charters or bank-fintech partnerships and defending federal and state consumer protection laws against preemption or evasion as financial services evolve. Depending on interest, background, and demands, the attorney may work in a number of other areas of consumer financial protection.

Qualifications
- Law degree and admission to the bar in at least one state.
- At least 5 years of legal experience is required.
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest or consumer law work required.
Experience with predatory lending, banking, payments, preemption and/or fintech is highly preferred.

Experience or demonstrated interest in policy advocacy work.

Excellent writing and analytical skills, including a demonstrated ability to analyze and write about complex legal and public policy issues.

Outstanding communication and advocacy skills.

The ability to think creatively, be strategic, and exercise good judgment.

The ability to work independently and as part of a team.

A demonstrated commitment to advocating for equity for low-income and other economically disadvantaged people, including Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

Responsibilities

- Research and write on consumer issues for NCLC legal practice manuals and other publications, as well as shorter policy briefs;
- Write and present regulatory and legislative comments and testimony; meet with and respond to requests from policymakers, other advocacy organizations, industry groups, and the media;
- Provide legal and technical support to private and civil legal aid lawyers, consumer advocates, and government officials;
- Lead workshops and training sessions for lawyers and advocates;
- Develop proactive communication strategies to promote policy goals;
- Develop and manage advocacy projects;
- Contribute to fundraising efforts by obtaining grants and contracts;
- Supervise law students on projects.

Salary

NCLC pays on a competitive salary scale, commensurate with years of experience. For example, starting annual pay at 5 years is $96,000, 10 years $116,000, 15 years $128,000.

Benefits

NCLC offers an outstanding benefits package that includes employer-paid medical, dental, life and disability insurance, as well as pre-tax savings plans, a retirement savings plan with employer contribution, and generous paid time off including holidays, sick time, personal time, parental and family leave, and 4 weeks of vacation per year.

Relocation assistance is available for candidates that wish to work in our Washington, DC office.

How to Apply:

Please submit a resume and cover letter to careers@nclc.org (subject line: Staff Attorney 2021) and complete the online employment application: https://forms.gle/dRirC7GriXckG9f9A

While applications will be considered on a rolling basis, priority consideration will be given to applicants that apply by November 8th, 2021.

The National Consumer Law Center is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer, and encourages applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability or veteran status, or to other non-work-related factors.