Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC) celebrated its 45th year in 2020 as the nation’s oldest cross-disability rights advocacy organization. Our mission is to champion the rights of people with disabilities through education, advocacy, and litigation. Our long-established connection to the disability community and extensive outreach efforts enable DRLC to attract and bring high-impact cases in administrative, state, and federal court. These cases impact the well-being and equal opportunity for people with disabilities throughout California and the nation.

Working at DRLC is more than just a job - it’s a rare opportunity to make a difference in people’s lives and have a blast doing it. DRLC is a diverse, friendly, supportive environment with the resources and leadership to support legal staff in their personal and career goals. We litigate cutting edge and challenging cases, often collaborating with top notch private and non-profit law firms across the country. If civil rights litigation and making a positive contribution to society – all while having fun – are your goals, then we want you to join our team!

DRLC seeks an experienced, dynamic, and highly motivated Senior Staff Attorney with outstanding academic and professional credentials to join the litigation team.

Overview:

- Reporting to the Director of Litigation, the Senior Staff Attorney investigates, litigates, and monitors civil rights cases on behalf of individuals with disabilities, including individual, multi-plaintiff, and class action cases and appeals.

- Senior Staff Attorneys are expected to handle their own cases under the Director’s supervision, with the help of co-counsel, junior attorneys, and support staff; engage with the disability community; and contribute to improving office procedures and morale.

- Applicants for the Senior Staff Attorney should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience as a practicing litigation attorney, including experience that allows the applicant to handle disability rights impact litigation. Appellate and trial experience are desirable but not required.

- Applicants are expected to possess experience sufficient to allow them to work with substantial independence in furtherance of DRLC’s mission, a positive and supportive mindset, and eagerness to hone skills and accept constructive criticism.

- Experience working with volunteers, law clerks, the media, community outreach, and staff and/or community training is desirable.
Candidates should have excellent writing, research, and oral communication skills, excellent project management skills, and a keen interest in DRLC’s mission.

Attorneys with disabilities, persons of color, and/or members of other under-represented communities are highly desirable and encouraged to apply.

Required Qualifications:
- Admission to a state bar (California Bar preferred);
- Minimum of five (5) years civil litigation experience;
- Superb legal research, writing, and analytical skills;
- Excellent case management and organizational skills;
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and supervision skills;
- High level of independence, initiative, creativity, and good judgment.

Additional Desired Qualifications:
- Personal or family connection to disability;
- Trial and/or appellate experience;
- Knowledge of federal and state disability litigation, special education a plus;
- Experience working directly with clients;
- Fluency in spoken and written Spanish.

Compensation:
This is a full time, exempt position. Compensation consists of salary commensurate with experience level in the public interest legal sector; insurance benefits (health, liability, life, and disability); professional dues and memberships; vacation and sick leave.

Application:
Applications welcome immediately; position open until filled. Applications must include:
  1. Cover letter addressing interest in the position, highlighting relevant experience and desired qualifications noted above;
  2. Resume/CV;
  3. Writing sample;
  4. Three professional and academic references, may include an additional personal reference; and
  5. List of any major cases in which you were substantially involved, with a brief description of your role.

Submit electronic application to CK@drlcenter.org with “Senior Staff Attorney” in the subject line. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. No phone calls, please. Only applicants selected for an interview will receive a response.

For more information on the Disability Rights Legal Center visit: www.theDRLC.org

Persons with disabilities, persons of color, women, and members of other under-represented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.