

New Mexico Legal Aid



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NMLA Veterans Staff Attorney position available in Albuquerque

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New Mexico Legal Aid seeks a Staff Attorney to serve US Armed Services veterans. The position is based in Albuquerque, but may involve work throughout New Mexico.

The Staff Attorney will handle a wide range of cases for low-income veterans and their families on (1) veteran-specific issues like VA benefits and discharge upgrades, and (2) general poverty law issues like housing, family law issues, consumer issues and non-VA benefits. The Staff Attorney will also handle general non-veteran cases depending on the needs of the organization.

The work will include advising clients and helping them prepare paperwork; representing clients in court and in administrative proceedings; conducting community education and outreach to eligible clients, to veterans support organizations and the Veterans Administration; and recruiting and collaborating with pro bono attorneys. The Staff Attorney must obtain and maintain accreditation to appear before the Veterans Administration on VA cases. The Staff Attorney will be active in local bar and community activities.

Handling veterans' cases can be especially challenging. Veterans historically are a vulnerable and disenfranchised group with unmet legal needs. In addition, administrative proceedings with the VA can be especially slow and tedious. Candidates must therefore be compassionate, patient, determined and resilient.

The NMLA office in Albuquerque handles a wide range of creative, challenging and complex work. We are looking for highly motivated candidates who are passionate about and strongly committed to helping NMLA better serve our client communities, including development of effective team strategies to handle complex advocacy and extended representation cases.

Requirements: Two years' experience as a licensed attorney preferred. Admission to practice before the VA preferred, but must be expeditiously obtained after hire if not admitted at time of hire. Must be willing to travel. Must be able to effectively use computer technology and remote communications systems, including shared on-line workspaces and web meeting and videoconferencing software, to effectively collaborate and co-counsel with staff located in multiple offices. Candidates also must possess excellent written and oral communication skills, the ability

to manage multiple tasks, manage a caseload and build collaborative relationships within the staff and the community.

Applicants may be subject to a background search. Please do not let this deter you from applying. NMLA is committed to a strong workforce and recognizes that persons with marks on their record may still be able to perform admirably.

This position is partially grant-funded, and continued employment is dependent on continued funding.

Send a current resume, and a letter of interest explaining what you would like to accomplish if you are selected for this position to: jobs@nmlegalaid.org

Salary: DOE – union scale, excellent benefits, NMLA is an EEO Employer. **Application Deadline: December 15, 2019 or until position filled.**

 [Veterans Attorney - nov 2019.pdf](#)

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