



Job Description – Legal Fellow

About CSJ: Counsel to Secure Justice (“CSJ”) works on access to justice for children and enhancement of child protection systems, integrating a restorative approach. Established in April 2012, today CSJ’s work spans legal and psychosocial support to child sexual abuse survivors (since 2013), mental health support, restorative and access to justice support for children in conflict with law, and capacity building of institutional and grassroot child protection stakeholders. CSJ has worked with more than 250 child sexual abuse survivors till date. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CSJ also extended its support to children and women in violent, abusive and other difficult situations, through direct interventions like helplines as well as training of Childline and other child protection agencies.

CSJ is looking for a competent **Legal Fellow** to serve a full-time, two-year assignment with CSJ that develops them into leaders who have refined and practical professional skills, high standards of personal and professional ethics and a passion to serve the disadvantaged. During the assignment, the Fellow will coordinate legal support for children who have suffered sexual abuse, take up cases on CSJ’s behalf, and help with research aimed to further sensitive justice systems in India.

Job Title: Legal Fellow

Location: New Delhi

Reports to: Legal Counsel

Duration: 2 years, starting immediately.

Remuneration: Remuneration for this position will be commensurate with competitive industry standards and relevant work experience.

Key Responsibilities

- Attend court hearings regularly and advocate for victims of child sexual abuse.
- Work with social workers to identify and coordinate with third party lawyers for legal support in child sexual abuse cases.
- Collect copies of FIR, S.161 statement, S.164 statement and Medico-Legal Certificate for cases and legally analyse documents to identify strengths and weaknesses and to recommend correct offences to charge.
- Coordinate and follow up with assigned advocates from pro bono panel and partner organisations to get updates and progress on cases until judgment; keep CSJ team updated on case progress.
- Help clients/family seek witness protection when witnesses face threats or intimidation related to case.
- Support the Survivor Support team with drafting legal documents, such as applications for victim compensation.
- Work with the assigned lawyer and CSJ Support Person to prepare key witnesses to testify, including leading mock direct and cross-examination.
- Carry out research and writing that contributes towards studies the Survivor Support team produces.
- Organise, catalogue and analyse data collected for research and draft summaries.



- Stay updated on relevant criminal, procedural and evidentiary law related to investigation and adjudication of child sexual abuse cases in particular, and child protection jurisprudence in general, and circulate updates to team on weekly basis.
- Methodically document client case information in a consistent, accurate, comprehensive and timely manner.

Requirements

- Bachelor of Laws degree required with preferably a year of trial court experience.
- Candidate to be registered with the Bar Council of India.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office or similar software and database systems.
- Demonstrated commitment to the vulnerable sections of society.
- Excellent comprehension of written and spoken English and Hindi.
- Excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a challenging, sometimes hostile, environment.
- Uncompromising insistence on truth, integrity and excellence in work.
- Persistent, bold, yet diplomatic, when interacting with people and completing assignments.
- Willingness to learn and stretch oneself beyond comfort levels.
- Ability to adapt to the changing environment of a growing organization.
- Commitment to meeting deadlines and achieving results under pressure.

We welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons. We particularly encourage applications from women, individuals who identify themselves as Dalit, Bahujan and Adivasi, individuals on the LGBTQIA+ spectrum, disabled, religious minorities as these groups are underrepresented.

How to Apply

- Please make sure you have gone through the job description in detail.
- Interested and suitable candidates to apply by sending their CV to careers@csjindia.org latest by **September 25, 2022**.

For any questions or clarifications, please write to us at careers@csjindia.org