



PUBLIC JUSTICE

IMPACT. CHANGE.

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

May 2024

**SPONSORSHIP FOR ACCESS TO JUSTICE LEGAL FELLOWSHIP
STARTING FALL 2025
WASHINGTON, DC, OAKLAND, CA, or REMOTE**

Public Justice is a nonprofit legal advocacy organization that takes on the biggest systemic threats to justice of our time—abusive corporate power and predatory practices, the assault on civil rights, and the destruction of the earth’s sustainability. It connects high impact litigation with strategic communications and the strength of our partnerships to fight these abusive and discriminatory systems and win social and economic justice.

Our Access to Justice (A2J) Project invites rising third-year law students and law graduates to apply for an opportunity to work with us as a legal fellow on cutting-edge litigation and advocacy related to access to the civil court system. We seek to host a candidate to apply for one- or two-year public interest fellowships from funders such as Skadden, Equal Justice Works, and/or Justice Catalyst to begin in the fall of 2025.

Overview of Access to Justice Project

The **Access to Justice Project** (A2J) seeks to make the civil court system a fair, equitable, and effective tool for those with less power to win just outcomes and hold those with more power accountable.

The Project challenges and removes the key inequities that block access to justice through the civil courts and creates new opportunities to make the civil courts an effective tool for equitable justice. To achieve this outcome, Access to Justice works with a network of litigators, organizations, and others who share our vision, and in partnership with them, identifies, assesses, and prioritizes key barriers and opportunities for a just and equitable civil court system.

The Access to Justice Project works toward these goals primarily through strategic high-impact litigation, but also supports coalition advocacy and works to educate and engage on these topics. The Project’s current areas of focus are combatting the use of forced arbitration, restrictive standing doctrines, excessive court secrecy, federal preemption of state-law claims, undue limitations on class actions, limits on accountability for law enforcement and detention abuses, and the narrowing of the use of disparate impact theories.

For more information about the litigation and advocacy work of the Access to Justice Project, visit our website [here](#).

The Fellowship

Consistent with their funded project, the Fellow would work on litigation and advocacy with A2J's staff attorneys, as well as a network of lawyers who collaborate on Public Justice's work, other public interest groups, and our communications staff. The Fellow would also be responsible for conducting intakes and helping develop materials to educate the public and the bar about their work. We are particularly interested in hosting a Fellow whose project focuses on our work fighting excessive court secrecy—that is, overbroad protective and sealing orders that keep important information from the public. You can read more about that work [here](#). This is an exempt position and will report to a Senior Attorney or Staff Attorney. We will work closely with the selected candidate to craft an appropriate project proposal for fellowship applications. Employment is contingent upon the receipt of funding from Skadden, Equal Justice Works, Justice Catalyst, or a similar funder in an amount no less than \$50,000 per year.

Qualifications

- J.D. degree (by Fall 2025).
- Admission to a state bar or pending admission by Fall 2025.
- Excellent analytical, legal research, legal writing, and speaking skills.
- Litigation experience (e.g., from internships, clinics, or clerkships).
- Ability to juggle multiple tasks at a time and work in a fast-paced environment.
- Self-motivation and proven ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Sensitivity to the needs and concerns of, and ability to work well with, individuals and groups from diverse cultures, backgrounds, and orientations.
- Excellent attention to detail and commitment to follow-through.
- Strong organizational skills.
- Healthy sense of outrage and desire to change the world for the better.
- Experience in civil litigation is preferred.
- Willingness to travel on occasion.

Salary

We offer a mission-focused work environment, a teamwork and community-oriented approach, and a competitive compensation package. **Our attorneys are paid on a salary scale based on years out of law school. The annual salary for an attorney who is less than a year out of law school is \$84,500.**

Benefits

- Four-day work week (30-hour work week)
- Flexible schedule
- Three weeks of paid vacation
- Two weeks of sick leave
- Two personal days each year
- All federal holidays and some local holidays off (*Public Justice acknowledge there are various religious and cultural holidays that are important to our team. We encourage team members to take any days necessary for observing holidays and celebrations that are central to their faith tradition or communities.*)
- Employer-sponsored health plan
- 401 (k) plan

How to Apply

Your application should consist of **two** electronic files:

- (1) Cover letter that conveys why you are drawn to Public Justice’s mission and the objectives of this position and how your experience fits with those objectives, and well as any ideas or vision you have for your project. Please specify in your cover letter whether you are applying to work in the Washington, D.C. office, the Oakland, CA office, or remotely.
- (1) Resume.
- (1) Law school transcript (official or unofficial).
- (1) Contact information for three references.
- Separate PDF file of (2) Writing sample, preferably a legal brief or memorandum unedited or only lightly edited by another, including a cover sheet explaining the extent of editing by someone else.

Please send your application to lawfellow@publicjustice.net. Reference “2025 A2J Fellowship” in the subject line. Applicants are encouraged to submit their materials by Friday, June 14, 2024 at which point applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access

We recognize that creating a truly equitable, inclusive, and diverse organization is an ongoing journey, and we’re proud and excited to share our journey with you. Please read our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion policy, available [here](#).

Public Justice is an equal-opportunity employer and values a diverse workplace. We are committed to providing an environment of mutual respect where equitable employment opportunities are available to all applicants. We encourage applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, disability, veteran status, record of arrest or conviction, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. People of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender and gender diverse people, women, people with abilities in multiple languages, immigrants, people living with disabilities, veterans, and formerly incarcerated individuals are strongly encouraged to apply.

Public Justice is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities. ***If you require reasonable accommodations during any part of the hiring process, please email mmediavilla@publicjustice.net.***

Studies have shown that members of marginalized groups tend to underestimate their qualifications and are less likely to apply for jobs unless they believe they meet every single one of the qualifications in a job description, despite the reality that applicants rarely ever meet 100% of the qualifications. We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive organization and are

most interested in finding the best candidate for the role. That candidate may come from a background less traditional to our field of work, and that's okay! We strongly encourage you to apply, even if you don't believe you meet every one of the qualifications described.