



Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing

Housing Litigation Attorney

Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing (LCBH): For 40 years, LCBH has been Chicago's only legal aid agency that advocates solely for renters. LCBH focuses its representation on serving low-income and working-class renters living in the private rental market. LCBH attorneys assist renters and tenant unions defending against eviction, fighting for improved housing conditions, and asserting tenants' rights in foreclosure units and buildings. LCBH attorneys work in collaboration with a social worker on staff to holistically address both the immediate housing crisis and its underlying causes. LCBH pursues its mission through direct legal services, community engagement, and policy and advocacy work, all of which are designed to strengthen the rights of all renters across Chicago.

Position Announcement: LCBH seeks a passionate advocate to join our team. Applicants should have demonstrated litigation experience. The ideal candidates will also have expertise in one or more of the following areas of law: landlord-tenant law, eviction defense, housing choice voucher issues, building code enforcement, fair housing, MLP, and appellate litigation.

Some of LCBH's current initiatives that the housing litigation attorney may focus on include:

- **Health Housing Chicago**, a medical-legal partnership (MLP) that addresses health-harming housing issues in Chicago's Austin community
- **Affordable Housing Preservation Program** that provides legal services in the community to assist tenant unions in enforcing the building code and preserving affordable housing
- **Eviction Diversion Program**, an in-court LCBH collaboration between LCBH's social services and legal teams that screens renters who may qualify for state homeless prevention funds
- **Eviction Brief Advice Desk**, an in-court eviction brief advice desk staffed by legal aid attorneys and pro bono
- **Fair Housing Education Consortium** that conducts fair housing trainings to landlord and tenant groups across Chicago
- **LCBH Policy Program** initiatives such as a Chicago Just Cause/Good Cause for Eviction Ordinance, a Chicago Proactive Rental Inspection Ordinance, and an Illinois Eviction Curtain/Eviction Sealing Law

Duties

- Provide legal advice and brief services to renters on housing issues
- Defend renters in eviction court in both bench and jury trials
- Represent tenant unions in building court in order to improve or preserve affordable housing



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- Obtain TRO's to address constructive evictions such as lock-outs, utility shut-offs, and unsafe conditions
- Supervise legal interns, pro bono attorneys, and paralegals
- Co-counsel with pro-bono attorneys to pursue impact litigation leading to the fair administration of justice in eviction courtrooms
- Conduct outreach and presentations in the community
- Track hours and cases and report as necessary to funders and other stakeholders
- Some program management duties as directed

Qualifications

- 3+ years litigation experience; more experienced attorneys are encouraged to apply
- Licensed in Illinois, or have confirmed eligibility to waive in
- Affinity for legal aid and non-profit work, and committed to racial justice
- Commitment to the vision and mission of LCBH
- Experience working with and supervising law students, externs, and legal fellows
- Ability to manage a dynamic caseload that includes a variety of housing issues and levels of service
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with other staff and community partners
- Demonstrated exceptional legal writing skills
- Experience with community lawyering a plus
- Demonstrated housing experience a plus
- Fluency in Spanish a strong plus

Compensation and benefits: Compensation is based on a public interest salary scale and is commensurate with experience. LCBH offers a benefits package that includes medical, dental/vision, 401k retirement plan, and other pre-tax benefits. We also provide generous paid time off including holiday, vacation, personal and sick leave.

Application Process: To apply please send your resume and a thoughtful cover letter to jobs@lcbh.org. Please include "Litigator" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

LCBH is a 501(c)(3) organization and does not receive funding from the Legal Services Corporation. **We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourage people of color, women, people with disabilities, older people, LGBTQ, and people from other underrepresented groups to apply.**