



Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing

HOUSING ATTORNEY

Position Type

Full-time, exempt

About LCBH

Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing's mission is to provide free legal and supportive services to improve housing stability for lower income renters while advocating for the rights of all renters until everyone in Chicago has a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home. For over 40 years LCBH has served Chicago renters who are facing unjust evictions or living in substandard housing. Using a fundamentally different approach to prevent homelessness, LCBH intervenes before renters are forced out of their homes and holistically addresses the short-term housing crisis and its underlying causes by combining legal aid with social services.

Job Description

LCBH will hire two attorneys to work with the Cook County Legal Aid for Housing and Debt Early Resolution Program (ERP). The ERP provides free legal assistance, counseling, pre-court mediation and case management for tenants facing eviction to negotiate settlements, conduct evidentiary hearings, argue a variety of motions, and conduct both bench and jury trials. The ERP will focus on brief services and negotiations, but LCBH will structure funding to allow these attorneys to provide extended services with alternate funding.

Remote Work During COVID-19 Pandemic

LCBH offices are currently closed and staff are working remotely in order to maintain social distancing during the pandemic. Currently the court is generally only scheduling remote Zoom hearings. LCBH will provide laptops for staff. Staff attorneys will need internet connections.

Duties include

- Provide legal advice and brief services to renters
- Coordinate with rental assistance programs, supportive services, mediation, and other programs to connect renters with the resources necessary to preserve their housing
- Defend renters in eviction court in both bench and jury trials
- Engage in all aspects of litigation: intake interviews; charting case strategy; drafting pleadings, motions, and discovery; interviewing and preparing witnesses; and conducting discovery and investigation

Qualifications include

- **Spanish-speaking ability strongly preferred**
- A license to practice law in Illinois, or confirmed eligibility to be admitted immediately by waiver



Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing

- Affinity for legal aid work and commitment to racial justice
- Ideal candidate will have participated in a law school clinic or internships with legal aid organizations
- Demonstrated housing experience is a 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.

Application Process

To apply please send your resume, writing sample, and a thoughtful cover letter to jobs@lcbh.org. Please include "ERP Attorney" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Positions open immediately.

Equal Opportunity Employer

We strongly encourage applications from people of color, immigrants, women, older people, persons living with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ community, people with lived experience of poverty and/or racism, and people from underrepresented and historically marginalized groups.