



Neighborhood Legal Services
of Los Angeles County

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:
Public Benefits Attorney**
June 2022

Join the Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA) and become part of an energetic team of advocates that provide a wide-range of legal services aimed to address issues that disproportionately impact the poor. These services include litigation, providing training and technical assistance, and community education.

NLSLA is seeking a Staff Attorney to focus on public benefits. The ideal candidate will be a skillful attorney who can excel in a fast-paced, dynamic anti-poverty law practice and is capable of fiercely advocating on behalf of NLSLA clients in multiple forums. The candidate must have a demonstrated passion and commitment to public interest law and preferably prior experience serving low-income individuals and client groups, with a sensitivity to those in crisis. The ideal candidate must possess strong research and organizational skills; the ability to effectively communicate verbally and in writing; and well-developed analytical skills. Of critical importance is that the candidate be self-motivated with the ability to work independently.

The NLSLA public benefits team assists individuals who are having difficulty accessing or maintaining public benefits that they rely on to feed themselves and their family, maintain their housing, pay for medicine, and generally survive. These benefits are administered by the Los Angeles County Department of Public and Social Services (DPSS), and include CalFresh (Food Stamps), CalWORKs (welfare), General Relief (cash aid for indigent adults), CAPI (cash assistance for elderly and disabled immigrants) and other benefits. We also focus on Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits, such as SSI, SSDI and Retirement, which often are the only sources of income for disabled and elderly people. We utilize direct representation, administrative advocacy, community education and impact litigation to fight for our clients' rights to economic supports. Learn about our current litigation [here](#).

Our practice is growing, with an increased focus on immigrant access to public benefits and ensuring access to benefits during the pandemic. Learn more about our new project to improve immigrant access to benefits at www.bailanetwork.org.

Responsibilities include legal research and writing, drafting of administrative and court documents, representation in administrative advocacy and administrative hearings, impact litigation, and policy advocacy at the state/local levels. Public benefits advocates provide training and technical assistance to other organizations and legal services providers and promote access to public benefits in a range of forums.

- Position:** Staff Attorney
- Availability:** Availability is Immediate.
- Salary:** Salary starting at \$68,000 - commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits which include: choice of medical, dental, vision; life and disability insurance plans; 125 plan;

Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County | www.nlsla.org | Toll-Free Telephone: (800) 433-6251

GLENDALE OFFICE
Administrative Offices
1104 E. Chevy Chase Dr.
Glendale, CA 91205

EL MONTE OFFICE
3629 Santa Anita Ave.
#109
El Monte, CA 91731

PACOIMA OFFICE
13327 Van Nuys Blvd.
Pacoima, CA 91331

WELLNESS CENTER
Historic General Hospital
1200 N. State St., #1008
Los Angeles, CA 90033

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403(b) with employer contribution, loan reimbursement, bilingual pay supplement, sick and vacation pay, and 14 employer-paid holidays.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The staff attorney will be responsible for representing individuals in public benefits cases, potential impact litigation, administrative and policy advocacy, and community outreach and education.

Qualifications:

Must be licensed and eligible to practice law in California, or ability to be admitted by first available exam.

COVID-19 vaccination is required, which is a condition of employment. Reasonable accommodations will be considered.

About NLSLA:

Founded in 1965 as part of our nation's War on Poverty, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA) is now one of the largest and most prominent public interest law firms in California. NLSLA provides free assistance to more than 115,000 low-income residents of Los Angeles County each year. The NLSLA staff of 180, including 80 attorneys, specialize in areas of the law that disproportionately impact low-income people, including affordable housing and eviction defense, access to public benefits, support for domestic violence victims, access to healthcare, worker and consumer rights, services for justice-involved adults and youth, education rights, clean slate initiatives, and employment and training.

Through a combination of individual representation, high impact litigation, and public policy advocacy, NLSLA's advocacy combats the immediate and long-persisting effects of poverty and expands access to health, opportunity and justice. NLSLA serves all of Los Angeles County with a special emphasis on the poverty communities of the San Fernando, San Gabriel, Pomona and Antelope Valleys, as well as the central county cities of Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena. In addition, NLSLA advocates are co-located in courthouses in Van Nuys, Lancaster, Chatsworth, Pomona, Pasadena, and Downtown LA; Hospitals and health centers in Sylmar, Van Nuys, North Hollywood and El Monte; and with social services providers in the Antelope Valley.

To apply:

Forward cover letter, resume, and writing sample to (no phone calls):

Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to:

Lambreni Waddell, Chief of Staff & Interim Director of Human Resources
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County

1102 E. Chevy Chase Drive

Glendale, CA 91205

Fax: (818) 291-1790 E-mail: employment@nlsla.org

NLSLA is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity for all employees and to providing employees with a work environment free of discrimination and harassment. All employment decisions at NLSLA are based on organizational needs, job requirements and individual qualifications, without regard to age, race, color, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran, disability status, family or parental status, or any other status protected by federal and CA state laws. NLSLA will not tolerate discrimination or harassment based on any of these characteristics.