



Removal Defense Immigration Attorney

About the Organization: Building One Community (“B1C”) is a non-profit organization established in 2011 as a comprehensive resource center for immigrants across southwestern Connecticut. B1C’s mission is to advance the successful integration of immigrants and their families.

Our Immigration Legal Services (“ILS”) department began in 2016 and has served more than 750 families and individuals with affirmative applications before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, such as naturalization, adjustment of status, DACA/TPS, consular processing, VAWA and U visas. In September 2021, ILS created a new Removal Defense Practice to provide *pro bono* representation to unaccompanied minors and adults, individuals and families before the Hartford Immigration Court, the Board of Immigration Appeals and before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Position Description: We seek an experienced and passionate **Removal Defense Immigration Attorney** to join our ground-breaking program that provides high-quality representation to low income non-citizens in removal proceedings. The ideal candidate will have the vision and the drive to make B1C the premier removal defense program in Connecticut. The Removal Defense Attorney will join a dynamic team that includes the Removal Defense Director, two Immigrant Justice Corps law fellows, and a part-time paralegal. The Removal Defense attorney will work independently and collaboratively on all aspects of cases – including interviewing, counseling, case development and advocacy both in and out of court for unaccompanied minors and young adults, individuals and families. The Removal Defense Practice provides client-centered, holistic advocacy aimed at ensuring all clients are treated with dignity and respect. This full-time, exempt position will report to the Removal Defense Director.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities:

- Represent non-citizens in removal proceedings before the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR), before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- Represent unaccompanied minors on their asylum claims before the Newark Asylum Office
- Represent noncitizens on motions to reopen before EOIR
- Provide or coordinate probate court representation for minors eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)
- Collaborate with the ILS affirmative practice and other B1C departments to provide client-centered, interdisciplinary and comprehensive legal services
- Track case law developments in immigration law and policy
- Participate in public outreach and community education initiatives on immigration issues

- Participate in ILS staff meetings and case management reviews
- Provide required information for grants and contract reporting
- Maintain, organize, and update case files and case management database (LawLogix)

Qualifications:

Required

- Two to five years' experience practicing immigration law as a removal defense attorney or equivalent experience
- Admitted to practice law in any state (admission in Connecticut a plus)
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest law
- Excellent English language oral and written skills
- Spanish language proficiency
- Willingness to travel to immigration court in Hartford, CT and the Newark Asylum Office
- Excellent organizational skills; demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively with a team
- Experience working with low income clients from diverse communities and backgrounds

Strongly preferred

- Appellate experience
- Experience representing minors in family or probate court for Special Immigrant Juveniles

To apply for this position, please submit your resume and a cover letter to jobs@b1c.org. Resumes without a cover letter will not be reviewed; no telephone calls please.

Building One Community is an Equal Opportunity Employer