



Staff Attorney

Location: Madison, WI

Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) is hiring a Staff Attorney to provide legal and technical support to community groups and partner organizations to protect public rights.

MEA is a non-profit, public interest environmental law center that works for clean water, air, land and government for this generation and the next. We further environmental justice by supporting communities with environmental concerns while also building capacity at the local level for self-advocacy because we believe that everyone has the potential to make a difference in our environmental future.

We are seeking an experienced attorney to further our community-based approach to lawyering which involves collaboration with organizational partners as well as providing technical and legal assistance to community-based organizations and coalitions. A successful candidate will combine community outreach and education with legal advocacy to help our clients successfully protect the environment while simultaneously strengthening communities.

The Staff Attorney will work in a collaborative, team environment and be engaged in all facets of environmental advocacy including litigation, client counseling, policy development and advocacy, permit review, and supervising law students.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Collaborate with Staff Attorneys, law clerks, Community Services Coordinator, and external partners to investigate, develop, and litigate cases.
- Develop and engage in legal advocacy by drafting and reviewing legislation, drafting rulemaking petitions, submitting comments to agencies, writing letters, developing fact sheets and other materials, participating in coalition meetings and events.
- Work with Wisconsin residents and other organizations to improve public rights in the environment by identifying threats and opportunities to improve the environment.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of a legal and policy strategy for the organization.
- Assist legal team with mentorship and feedback for legal interns.
- Appear at public events and at other forums and professionally represent MEA's mission and commitments.
- Occasional in-state travel required for trials, client meetings, public hearings and other events.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least 5 years of legal experience with a strong interest in the areas of environmental and administrative law.
- Licensed to practice law in state of Wisconsin.

- High-level litigation skills, including case investigation, brief writing, pre-trial preparation, oral advocacy and trials, and settlement negotiations showing a track record of success, increasing independence and responsibly.
- Demonstrated experience and leadership in effective collaboration with legal colleagues and litigation teams.
- Scientific literacy and ability to work with scientific experts to digest complex issues and produce desired legal outcomes.
- Exceptional writing, research, analytic and public speaking skills.
- Experience in policy development, analysis and review.
- High level organizational and time management skills with a remarkable attention to detail in a fast-paced environment.
- Ability to work independently to manage multiple goals while effectively communicating and collaborating within a team structure.
- Experience working with diverse communities and clients asserting their rights to meaningful participation in decision-making that impacts their lives.

COMPENSATION

Compensation is dependent on experience and qualifications. In addition, MEA offers a generous benefits package including medical, dental, long-term disability, and a retirement plan with employer match. Flexible Spending Accounts for medical, childcare, and commuter expenses are also available, as well as very generous paid time off.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, legal writing sample and three references by Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 to advocate@midwestadvocates.org or by mail to:

Midwest Environmental Advocates
ATTN: Lauren Rudersdorf
612 W. Main St, Suite 302
Madison, WI 53703

For more information about MEA, visit www.midwestadvocates.org.

MEA is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status.