



Staff Attorney - Appeals

About Rural Law Center of New York: Rural Law Center of New York, founded in 1996, is a non-profit agency with a main office located in Plattsburgh, New York and is a primary provider of legal services to low-income individuals in all (44) of New York state's rural counties. The Rural Law Center promotes the right of every person to equal justice under the law by providing high-quality legal assistance to individuals and families in need. For more information, please visit www.rurallawcenter.org.

Responsibilities: • Represents clients on direct appeal in the Appellate Division including case conferencing and strategy development, client communication and legal visits, brief drafting, oral argument, and leave applications; • Advise clients as to all potential appellate options, including withdrawal of guilty pleas, where appropriate, as well as negotiating pleas or other remedies following reversal of convictions; • Assist with the intake evaluation of cases and manage cases and deadlines with case management system.

Qualifications: • J.D. degree, with preferably three years of relevant appellate litigation experience; • Admission to the New York Bar, or ability to secure immediate admission to the New York Bar pursuant to 22 NYCRR § 520.10; • Outstanding legal research, writing, and oral advocacy skills; • Ability to manage case files with legal complex issues; • Experience in trial court, particularly in post-conviction proceedings, is a plus; • Demonstrated commitment to the representation of people who are indigent and convicted of crimes; understanding of the racial and economic issues underlying the administration of criminal justice; and a strong belief in the value and importance of communication with and respect for all people; • Strong belief in the value and importance of communication with and respect for clients; • Ability to work both collaboratively and independently.

Salary: Commensurate with experience.

Benefits: Excellent fringe benefits including generous leave, health, dental, and optical insurance, 403(b) retirement plan and Roth IRA, and a great work environment.

Start Date: flexible

Application Instructions: Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and list of three references to Heidi Dennis, Executive Director, at heidi@rurallawcenter.org.

The Rural Law Center is an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities, experiences, and communities to apply.

COVID-19 considerations: All staff are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
Work Location: Plattsburgh, NY (hybrid opportunities are available)