

**November 10, 2011**

**PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER OF PHILADELPHIA—DIRECTOR,  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC HEALTH PROJECT**

The Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, a prominent regional public interest law firm that uses high impact legal strategies to improve the well-being and life prospects of the region's most vulnerable populations, seeks a director of its Environmental Justice/Public Health project.

The director is responsible for using legal strategies to address the environmental and public health needs of low income/minority communities in the Philadelphia region. The director also is responsible for creating the groundwork for an environmental justice/public health clinic to be established with one or more law schools and, should such a clinic be established, overseeing and teaching the students in such a clinic. Finally, the director is expected to participate fully in the development and administrative activities of the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia as well as his or her own professional development.

Specific responsibilities are:

**Development of Projects and Cases to Address Environmental/Public Health Needs of Low Income/Minority Communities.**

The lawyer is expected to become fully familiar with the environmental and public health risks confronting low income/minority communities in Philadelphia and the region; and, in consultation with the Executive Director, to develop goals and projects to address those risks. The projects may include litigation, drafting legislation or regulations, advocacy and grassroots organizing, publications, and/or training. The specific tasks contemplated include but are not limited to the following:

- Develop familiarity with public health data, including asthma and lead poisoning risks.
- Develop familiarity with environmental risks faced by the region, including air and water quality measures.
- Develop familiarity with local and regional planning and zoning processes and participating where appropriate.
- Identify and contact existing community leaders as well as other community stakeholders.
- Forge partnerships with other organizations working in the region toward common goals.

- Review compliance of major industrial and commercial actors in the region with applicable laws, regulations and permit requirements.
- Review new permit applications for major industrial and commercial activity in the region.
- Identify and act on opportunities for formal and informal comment on issues determined to be relevant to the cases and goals undertaken by the project.
- Identify and act on opportunities to publish articles, editorials and commentaries to advance the goals undertaken by the project.
- Develop relationships with schools of health and engineering in area universities to use as resources in matters undertaken by the project.

### **Completing ongoing projects.**

The lawyer will assume the lead role in ongoing cases and other projects of the environmental justice/public health project.

### **Clinic Development**

A primary responsibility of the director will be to re-establish an environmental justice/public health law clinic with one or more law schools in the Philadelphia region to be started no later than fall semester 2013. The tasks will include:

- In collaboration with law school faculty and administration, develop a curriculum including coursework in environmental and public health litigation and advocacy, client interaction, community organizing and principles of environmental justice.
- Together with the Executive Director, cultivate relationships with area law schools toward establishing the clinic; participate in recruitment sessions.
- Upon establishment of the clinic:
  - Provide a seminar for one hour per week to clinical students based on curriculum described above.
  - Closely supervise students, including regular meetings with each student.
  - Provide students appropriate workloads, including significant client contact and responsibilities.
  - Introduce students to leaders in the environmental justice field and opportunities outside the work of the clinic.
  - Create tools for assessment of students and of clinic content which will provide useful feedback.

- Consult and collaborate with faculty and administrators in participating law schools and other departments of a university such as: Environmental Engineering, Public Health and Public Policy.

### **Professional Development and Administration.**

- Participate in regularly-scheduled meetings of staff, board of directors and board committees.
- Participate and cooperate in ongoing office projects, such as review of technology, space or equipment; hiring and supervising new lawyers, interns and legal fellows.
- Participate and cooperate with the development director in developing funding proposals, conducting direct mail campaigns; preparing written materials about ongoing matters for newsletters, websites, facebook page, twitter feed and other publications.
- Contribute to visibility of the organization in the community through speeches, articles, participation at job fairs, and presentations to law firms.
- Professional development through courses and training to learn new areas of the law, and technical skills and technological developments.
- Maintain abreast of current events relevant to areas of focus through articles, list-serve and speeches.

***Applicants must have a minimum of five years' experience practicing environmental law and two years' clinical teaching experience.*** In addition, we seek applicants with a thorough knowledge of Pennsylvania (or other state) and federal environmental laws and regulations; understanding of technical and scientific issues; knowledge of and experience in principles of environmental justice. Applicants must have developed litigation skills in state and federal court and before Environmental Hearing Board (or similar regulatory agency). We are seeking a candidate with collaborative skills and capacity for teamwork with diverse constituents: community groups, regulators, government officials, engineers, public health experts and others in the development and implementation of advocacy strategies. Candidates should have excellent teaching and mentoring skills; demonstrated use of effective strategies for systemic reform; initiative, creativity, energy and excellent follow-up skills; excellent analytical abilities; and well-developed writing, research and technical skills.

The position is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is *available immediately*. The salary and benefits are commensurate with experience.

The Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia is an equal opportunity employer and encourages candidates who are minorities or with a disability to apply.

To apply, submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and references by mail or email to:

Jennifer R. Clarke  
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For more information, visit us at [www.pilcop.org](http://www.pilcop.org) or friend us on facebook :  
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