

IMMEDIATE OPENING
STAFF ATTORNEY
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
DEATH PENALTY REPRESENTATION PROJECT

The American Bar Association's Death Penalty Representation Project is seeking a full-time Staff Attorney at the Project's Washington, D.C. office. The ABA is committed to ensuring that those facing the ultimate punishment are provided with competent, adequately compensated counsel at every stage of the proceedings. The Project's top priorities are: 1) enlisting law firms to represent indigent death-sentenced prisoners in post-conviction proceedings as pro bono counsel; and 2) reform of capital defender systems through systemic litigation and implementation of the ABA Guidelines for the Appointment and Performance of Defense Counsel in Death Penalty Cases.

The Staff Attorney will have responsibility for planning recruitment meetings, working with interested associates and partners to encourage them to accept a capital case, and providing support and guidance once they have agreed to do so; working with capital defenders at non-profit offices throughout the country who provide expert assistance to pro bono capital counsel; assisting with implementation of the ABA Guidelines for the Appointment and Performance of Defense Counsel in Death Penalty Cases; managing the death penalty practice area of www.probono.net/deathpenalty; responding to letters from death row prisoners and their advocates requesting the Project's assistance; coordinating death penalty programs and facilitating ABA co-sponsorship of capital training programs; and performing other duties as assigned.

While this is not a litigation position, the Staff Attorney has the opportunity to work on amicus briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court, draft commentary on proposed legislation and rules, and develop substantive guidance materials for capital counsel, and must have the skills to do so.

Qualified applicants should have a law degree and bar admission in at least one jurisdiction; at least three years legal work experience; a commitment to issues regarding indigent criminal defense and the death penalty; the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing as well as work with a wide range of people and entities; and excellent research, writing, computer, organizational and interpersonal skills.

It is critical that the Staff Attorney be self-directed, work independently, and be capable of managing numerous projects under sometimes stressful conditions. Knowledge of and experience with criminal law is a plus. The position requires some travel. Salary will be Mid-Fifties depending on experience.

Interested candidates should send a resume, a cover letter highlighting their interest and experience, references, and a writing sample to Human Resources at abajobsdc@abanet.org. Please include "Staff Attorney C890" in subject line. If necessary, you may submit by mail to: American Bar Association, HR-C890, 740 15th Street NW, Washington DC 20005; or fax to: ABA HR-C890, 202-662-1998. No phone calls, please.

The American Bar Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V. Women and individuals of color are encouraged to apply.