



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc. (DMRS) has an opening for a *paid* Litigation Summer Intern within its Removal Defense Unit. DMRS is a full service immigration legal aid organization providing high quality free and low cost legal services to individuals residing within the geographical boundaries of the Catholic Diocese of El Paso.

The Legal Intern will work with the Staff Attorneys in the Removal Defense Unit in all aspects of case screening and representation including, conducting intakes, conducting legal research, preparing documentation for submission to the local immigration court, preparing clients for their hearing before the court, representing clients before the court and other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Staff Attorneys or Executive Director. DMRS serves both detained and non-detained individuals that reside within our service area. Depending on client needs, the Legal Intern may assist with applications for Cancellation of Removal for both LPRs and Non-LPRs, asylum, VAWA petitions, U and T visas, Requests for prosecutorial discretion, and other applications for relief, as appropriate.

Responsibilities include:

- Interview potential clients to discuss possible representation
- Assist the Staff Attorneys in the preparation of their cases for court
- Assist in the representation of clients, including entering appearances before the Immigration Court
- Assist with legal or factual research and preparation of pleadings or applications for relief;
- Review materials and legal updates related to clients;
- Attend monthly CLEs.

Qualifications:

- Minimum one year of law study, with a preference for candidates who have taken immigration law, an immigration law clinic, or who have assisted with asylum or other related legal work;
- For compensation reasons, this position is limited to individuals attending a law school in the state of Texas
- Proficiency in Spanish;
- Demonstrated commitment to serving immigrant populations;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Strong organizational skills.

Compensation:

- The individual selected for this position will be paid a total stipend of \$4,000 and must complete a minimum of 40 hours per week for 10 weeks during the summer of 2017.

How to apply:

Position will be open until filled, applicants encouraged to apply immediately. To apply, please email a résumé, cover letter and writing sample to the Executive Director, Melissa M. Lopez, at mlopez@dmrs-ep.org and Development Coordinator, Rachel Green, at rgreen@dmrs-ep.org.