

Gain litigation training, mentorship and experience at a nonprofit law practice dedicated to access to justice for all. The Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) of The Bar Association of San Francisco is seeking a **Staff Attorney, Child Custody and Visitation** to ensure parents have legal counsel when these critical issues are at stake, and if needed, to receive training in substantive law and litigation practice.

### **About BASF:**

BASF is a nonprofit organization and the oldest voluntary bar association in California. Today, over 7,400 San Francisco lawyers are members of BASF, which prides itself as being one of the most active and innovative local bar associations. In addition to services and benefits to our members, BASF provides a variety of legal services to San Francisco residents including our Lawyer Referral and Information Service, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and the Justice & Diversity Center (including the Homeless Advocacy Project) which is the largest provider of legal services to San Franciscans.

### **About the Justice and Diversity Center of BASF (JDC):**

**JDC** is a non-profit organization that provides free legal services through its staff and volunteers to low-income Bay Area residents. Each year more than 1,600 volunteer attorneys, legal assistants, and law students work with JDC staff to serve nearly 7,500 indigent clients. JDC's holistic advocacy approach seeks to address the social service and legal needs of clients.



### **About the Job:**

JDC's "Sargent Shriver Child Custody Project" (SASH) is part of landmark legislation that funded programs through California to represent low-income people and families in civil cases where basic human needs are at stake: child custody and guardianship, and housing. SASH attorneys represent low-income litigants in child custody and visitation cases when the opposing party has an attorney, and thus ensure that both sides have counsel. The California Legislature recently approved funding to expand this civil right to counsel.

Attorney of all backgrounds and experience levels are welcome to apply. We will train newly admitted lawyers, or those new to family law, in child custody and visitation practice, client management, law and motion, and trials. This is a great opportunity to master litigation in an access to justice program with strong State backing.

The Staff Attorney will represent litigants only in the custody/visitation portion of their cases, and not in associated marital dissolution or spousal/child support portions. Responsibilities include: client outreach and screening; managing cases in active litigation; limiting representation to the custody issues while understanding the interplay between custody and support and property issues; and keeping updated records in case management systems. The attorney is expected to work independently but under the oversight of the SASH Supervising Attorney and JDC's Director of Pro Bono Legal Services. SASH is a partnership with the San Francisco Superior Court and project staff are based at offices at the Court.

The successful candidate will have the following:

## **EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE**

Licensed member of the California State Bar in good standing

Minimum of 1-2 years relevant experience, and/or recent graduate willing to be trained ideal

Family law litigation experience is helpful but not required

Experience working with low-income communities or demonstrated commitment to social justice is preferred

## **SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS**

Strong oral, written, and client service skills

Self-starter who works well independently and in a collegial team environment

Able to effectively interact with low-income clients, opposing counsel, judges and court staff

Strong organizational skills and/or demonstrated ability to independently manage a case load

Knowledge of MS Office (Outlook, Word, Excel) and Essential Forms

Please note bilingual language abilities

## **Why Work For Us:**

We offer a collaborative work environment, a progressive work culture, and a wonderfully diverse staff. Additionally, we are a mission and values based organization. We also offer a generous benefits package that includes: a choice of medical insurance plans, dental insurance, vision insurance, pretax commuter, health, and dependent care accounts, employer paid short- and long-term disability insurance, life insurance, and a retirement and profit-sharing benefit, and more.

To find out more about JDC, please visit our website at [www.sfbar.org/jdc](http://www.sfbar.org/jdc).

## **To Apply:**

Starting salary is competitive with other nonprofits. JDC is strongly committed to diversity and encourages applications from people who can contribute to our diversity.

We will begin reviewing candidates immediately and continue until the position is filled. Please submit your **resume and cover letter** to: Human Resources, JDC, 301 Battery Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111 or [BASFjobs@sfbar.org](mailto:BASFjobs@sfbar.org) (please reference "**SASH Staff Attorney**".)

**No phone calls please.** Due to the amount of resumes we receive each day, we will not be able to respond individually with the status of your application.