

LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR

**CIVIL
RIGHTS**

OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

ADVANCING CIVIL RIGHTS, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES AND TOUCHING LIVES



PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

- Are you seeking opportunities for professional growth?
- Ready for more autonomy with case management?
- Looking for a meaningful and tangible way to give back?

Become a volunteer attorney.* **Do it for the public good.**

**opportunities for non-lawyers, too*



“[The clients] have worked hard for more than a decade to build this business, and it’s so very exciting to meet them at the point where they’re looking to expand. They are not only contributing to their own well-being, but generating employment for their community. It’s been an honor to help them draft a form contract to serve them in achieving their future goals.”

—Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

DIRECT LEGAL SERVICES

Working in three core priority areas: **Racial Justice**, **Immigrant Justice**, and **Economic Justice**, the Lawyers’ Committee strives to mitigate breaches of established civil rights law and achieve “justice for all” through direct services, impact litigation and policy advocacy.

If you’re looking for a substantive and meaningful *pro bono* experience, get involved with us through one of our *direct legal services programs*:



Legal Services for Entrepreneurs (LSE)

www.lccr.com/lse

The Lawyers' Committee is committed to empowering communities of color and low-income by increasing economic opportunities to help overcome barriers to advancement and enable individuals to control their livelihoods. Through our signature direct services program, Legal Services for Entrepreneurs (LSE), we provide free transactional legal services to low-income individuals who want to start or develop businesses committed to investing in economically distressed communities, including those hiring people with arrest and conviction records, and “mom and pop shops” located in areas where gentrification is a force for displacement.

Opportunities for Volunteer Attorneys include:

- **WORKSHOP FACILITATION:** Topics address a range of legal issues entrepreneurs face when starting or growing a business — including business entity formation, hiring 101, commercial leasing basics, and intellectual property.
- **CLINICS AND CONSULTATIONS:** One-on-one attorney consultations to entrepreneurs who have legal questions related to a start-up or existing businesses throughout the Bay Area.
- **ATTORNEY MATCHING:** Entrepreneurs in need of legal assistance are matched with volunteer attorneys who help with: entity formation, commercial leases, employment issues, customer and supplier contracts, trademarks, and patents.



Asylum Program

The Asylum Program provides volunteers the opportunity to represent, counsel, and assist refugees who have escaped persecution and torture in their native countries and assist them in navigating the confusing and complex immigration process. Over more than 30 years, thousands of immigrants have been matched with *pro bono* volunteers and, through their advocacy and assistance, have secured asylum in the United States.

Education Advocacy Project (EAP)

The Education Advocacy Project (EAP) seeks to secure equal education opportunity for low-income students and students of color by, among other things, providing free legal representation in disputes with school districts, primarily in the areas of special education and school discipline. The project trains parents, providers, and *pro bono* counsel on the rights of students who are in need of special education services or are facing expulsion, and provides direct representation to students who want to challenge educational decisions that will significantly impact their academic success and post-secondary options.

Immigrant Post-Conviction Relief Project (IPCRP)

The Immigrant Post-Conviction Relief Project (IPCRP) trains legal services providers and *pro bono* counsel to secure post-conviction relief and provides direct services to individuals who need this relief to remain in the United States. By providing free post-conviction relief to immigrants facing removal, and providing legal services attorneys with the resources to do the same, this project will equip non-citizens with the only weapon powerful enough to combat deportation: a means of erasing the conviction that triggers the disastrous immigration consequences.

Second Chance Legal Clinic (SCLC)

www.lccr.com/secondchance

The Lawyers' Committee is committed to services, advocacy, and policies that will support successful community reentry and reintegration for clients who have had contact with the criminal justice system.

The Second Chance Legal Clinic (SCLC) provides free reentry legal services to people who have prior arrests or convictions. Because these services address the civil consequences of the criminal justice system, we are able to leverage the immense resources of the private bar to meet the needs of our client community.

SCLC helps with:

- Criminal record remedies (“expungement”)
- Housing and Employment rights
- Occupational licensing
- Driver's license suspensions
- Criminal background reports
- Public and private housing applications and denials
- Employment

Unconditional Legal Services Clinic at GLIDE

In partnership with Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco's Tenderloin district, the Lawyers' Committee supports a drop-in, free clinic that provides wrap-around legal services for the Glide community. Depending on the size and type of problem that potential clients have, they may be given advice immediately or, if ongoing legal representation is needed, referred to law firm volunteers or to local nonprofit legal services agencies.

Pro bono attorneys volunteering with the clinic will receive an orientation and written reference materials prior to attending an on-site clinic.

Pro bono attorneys will also have access to all of the Lawyers' Committee's internal and external referral resources. The clinic is led by a Lawyers' Committee attorney who will be on site and available for consultation.

The Unconditional Legal Services Clinic is held every Monday and Thursday from 2–5pm at Glide Memorial Church 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102



IMPACT LITIGATION AND POLICY ADVOCACY

Pro Bono Impact Litigation and Policy Advocacy opportunities generally come from the ranks of our partnering law firms. If you are the *Pro Bono* Manager at one of our partnering law firms, or if you are a *Pro Bono* Manager and would like your firm to become one of our Partnering Law Firms, please contact us for more information on how to become involved in our impact litigation and policy advocacy efforts.

NON-LAWYER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Law Clerk Program

Under the supervision of a mentoring attorney, law clerks prepare legal memoranda, conduct legal research, perform litigation and non-litigation related legal assignments, and conduct client interviews.

Law clerks are an integral part of the team at the Lawyers' Committee. Clerks have the opportunity to engage in direct legal services, policy advocacy, and impact litigation under one or more of our three broad issue areas: **Racial Justice**, **Immigrant Justice**, and **Community Empowerment and Economic Justice**.

Volunteer Interpreters

Interpreters are an integral part of the team that serves our clients, and they are crucial to our success. Working in partnership with *pro bono* attorneys, law clerks, and others, volunteers gain first-hand experience in legal interpreting.

Paralegal, Administrative, and Non-Law Student Support

Skills and expertise are needed for:

- Office management
- Fundraising
- Communications
- Events

For more information about volunteering with the Lawyers' Committee, please email: volunteer@lccr.com or call 415-543-9444 x200.



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ABOUT THE LAWYERS' COMMITTEE

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area works to advance, protect and promote the legal rights of communities of color, low-income persons, immigrants, and refugees. Assisted by hundreds of *pro bono* attorneys, LCCR provides free legal assistance and representation to individuals on civil legal matters through direct services, impact litigation and policy advocacy.

WE BELIEVE:

- Injustice must be rooted out
- Equal access to justice depends on access to quality legal services
- Neither race nor immigration status should affect a person's success or failure
- Economic empowerment is key to the civil rights movement
- The true needs of the community must be central to any litigation or advocacy agenda

CONTACT US

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area

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www.lccr.com | Twitter: [@lccrbayarea](https://twitter.com/lccrbayarea) | www.facebook.com/LCCRSF