

Bet Tzedek Legal Services 2020 Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowship Impact Litigation & Policy

ABOUT BET TZEDEK

Bet Tzedek sets the standard for innovation in public interest law and is one of the top legal agencies in the country providing both direct services and impact litigation assistance to Los Angeles' most vulnerable populations. Bet Tzedek's pioneering projects combine direct legal representation with powerful outreach, education, and legislative advocacy. Our leadership is a dynamic coalition between the public, private and non-profit sectors delivering innovative approaches to address root causes of poverty and exploitation. Our legal expertise and capacity to effect positive, sustainable social change garners national attention.

SUMMARY

Bet Tzedek seeks to sponsor a committed, dynamic, and collaborative candidate for a 2020 public interest fellowship with our Impact Litigation & Policy Project. Bet Tzedek is interested in applicants with anti-poverty focused project proposals who intend to apply for external funding. Bet Tzedek will assist in developing the idea into a fellowship proposal and help prepare fellowship applications as needed. In addition to the fellowship project, the Fellow will be a fully integrated member of the Project's legal team, working on our current docket of consumer and employment class actions, writ of mandate lawsuits, and anti-poverty policy.

The Impact & Policy Project represents low-income individuals in litigation in California state and federal courts, and engages in anti-poverty policy at the local, state, and national levels. The fellow will engage in various aspects of impact litigation and policy advocacy in a diverse range of Bet Tzedek's practice areas, including employment rights, elder justice, and consumer law. The fellow will report to the Director of Impact Litigation & Policy and will work in close collaboration with Bet Tzedek staff, pro bono attorneys, law clerks, and community-based organizations. Applicants should be prepared to describe one or more project ideas related to protecting elders, workers' rights, or consumers' rights through impact litigation or policy.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Under the supervision of Bet Tzedek staff, the fellow will:

- Help develop, conduct, and/or co-counsel strategic impact litigation
- Conduct legal research and analysis, and analysis and track proposed legislation
- Work with Bet Tzedek staff and community partners to identify systemic problems impacting Bet Tzedek's clients that could be addressed through affirmative litigation or policy
- Develop trainings and informational materials for other practitioners and community members.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Membership in the California bar or ability to practice under CA Rule of Court 9.45 by August 2020 (strongly preferred), or completed the CA bar exam by August 2020 (required)
- Excellent research and writing skills
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively
- Demonstrated commitment to anti-poverty and social justice work, and to serving low-income community members with compassion and respect.

To Apply: Please contact Alisa Shudofsky, Director of Pro Bono Programs, at ashudofsky@bettzedek.org.