



Position Announcement

Bi-lingual (Spanish-English) Attorney Experienced in Indigenous Peoples' Rights

October 13, 2021

The Indian Law Resource Center seeks an attorney having a demonstrated, serious commitment to protecting and advancing indigenous peoples' rights. The attorney must be capable of working in both Spanish and English and duly licensed to practice law by any state bar within the United States or by Mexico or any country within Central or South America.

The attorney will work with our experienced team dedicated to promoting and protecting indigenous peoples, indigenous lands, and endangered ecosystems, and to fighting climate change. This work will include planning and implementing a project to provide expert assistance to Indian peoples and communities in Mexico and Central and South America to title or secure legal ownership of their lands. The Center is collaborating on the project with the Interethnic Association of the Development of the Peruvian Amazon (AIDSEP) and the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB). The project goal is to protect large areas of lands and resources for the benefit of indigenous peoples and to better protect forests and other natural ecosystems. Work will include research and writing in Spanish and English and contact and consultations with indigenous peoples and indigenous organizations in Mexico and Central and South America concerning indigenous land rights and land titling. The project will include asserting and defending indigenous rights to self-determination and other related rights.

The attorney also may play a role in carrying out other legal programs of the Center including, but not limited to providing legal assistance to Indian and Alaska Native nations and indigenous organizations in the United States and Canada in matters relating to self-determination, lands and resources, international human rights, environmental protection, and the rights and safety of indigenous women. Because of the critical nature of our work, knowledge and experience in the field of indigenous peoples' rights and federal Indian law is required.

Depending on the health conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic, the position will require travel to Mexico and countries of Central and South America and locations within the United States.

Desired qualifications for applicants include:

- superior speaking and writing skills in Spanish and English;
- strong research and analytical skills including in Spanish language

- materials relating to land titling and reform;
- strong communication skills and ability to participate in a highly collaborative environment in order to consult with indigenous leaders from organizations and villages in Mexico and Central and South America;
- familiarity with indigenous communities and cultures and with the rights of indigenous peoples
- an extraordinary work ethic and high level of professionalism;
- understanding of international human rights and advocacy before the United Nation and Organization of American States;
- at least three years of experience practicing law;
- strong academic credentials;
- ability to handle significant individual work responsibilities and work well with others;
- demonstrated commitment to indigenous rights and to public interest legal work.

This is a one-year position with the possibility of becoming a permanent position. The position is open immediately. The attorney would work in the Center's Helena, Montana, office. Working remotely or in the Center's Washington, D.C., office are possibilities.

The Center provides generous benefits including healthcare and retirement. Salary will depend upon the experience and skills of the applicant.

Interested attorneys should apply or contact the Center as soon as possible. There is no closing date for applications; applications will be considered as soon as they are received. To apply, submit a resume, a writing sample in English or Spanish, and two professional references to mt@indianlaw.org.

About the Indian Law Resource Center

The Center is an Indian legal organization with offices in Helena, Montana, and Washington, D.C. The Center has provided legal assistance to indigenous peoples and tribes throughout North, Central and South America since 1978 in matters involving indigenous rights, human rights, lands, resources, and environmental protection. The Center is a Non-Governmental Organization in consultative status with the United Nations and the Organization of American States. Further information is available at www.indianlaw.org.