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JOB NOTICE

CONSUMER PROTECTION ATTORNEY

Posted September 7, 2010: Open Until Filled

Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, a non-profit provider of civil legal assistance to low-income persons in the Charlotte area and Western North Carolina, seeks a staff attorney for its Consumer Protection Program.

The purpose of the LSSP Consumer Protection Program is to improve financial literacy and stability for low-income persons, preserve home ownership and home equity, provide legal assistance with predatory lending, foreclosures, unfair trade practices, warranties, mobile home and automobile lending abuse, debt collection and other consumer and housing matters.

LSSP is committed to aggressive advocacy on behalf of low-income people in many areas of law and in all forums in which their rights and interests are determined. LSSP attorneys provide legal advice to and represent individual low-income clients in state and federal courts and administrative agencies, and also provide community legal education, participate in community events, assist other agencies serving low-income people and engage in legislative, administrative and other systemic advocacy projects and activities.

LSSP is funded by contributions from individuals and law firms, the United Way of Central Carolinas, grants from federal, state and local government agencies, private foundation grants and client fees. LSSP receives no Legal Services Corporation funds. More information about LSSP and the Consumer Protection Program can be found at our website: www.lssp.org.

Requires graduation from law school; North Carolina Bar license, eligible for comity or to take the NC Bar exam; demonstrated commitment to the poor; strong communication and analytical ability; strong interest in both individual and systemic advocacy, self-motivated, creative and dependable. Spanish language helpful but not required.

Salary \$40,000+ DOE; generous leave and benefits.

To Apply send a resume; writing sample; names and telephone numbers of three references; and a *detailed letter explaining your qualifications for and your interest in this specific position and in this specific organization*, your bar status, and a description of your experience with low-income people and any other relevant information to: Kenneth Schorr, Executive Director, Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, by email to kens@lssp.org or by mail to 1431 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte, NC, 28204. Email is preferred.

LSSP is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



Consumer Protection Program

The purpose of the LSSP Consumer Protection Program is to improve financial literacy and stability for low-income persons, preserve home ownership and home equity, provide legal assistance with predatory lending, foreclosures, unfair trade practices, warranties, debt collection and other consumer and housing matters.

The program's long-term goal is to build wealth in low-income families. We promote this goal by preserving home equity, protecting home ownership, and enabling the accumulation of capital. To this end, the project targets predatory and abusive lending practices aimed at low-wealth persons. Access to transportation is essential to wealth building because automobile ownership keeps most of our working clients employed.

The program currently focuses on preserving home ownership and also addresses the following issues:

- Home financing and refinancing abuses;
- Mobile home and automobile lending abuses;
- Claim and delivery remedies and procedures; and
- Affordable housing.

The program's work includes enforcing existing law, testing new laws and advocating for law reform at local, state and national levels. Strategies include litigation, legislative advocacy in coordination with other advocates, and community education to the client community and to service providers.

Funding for the program is provided by:

- NC Commissioner of Banks State Home Foreclosure Prevention Trust Fund
- The State Bar of North Carolina IOLTA Plan
- The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
- Contributions from individual lawyers and law firms