

**COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL SERVICES  
44 BROMFIELD STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02108**

**Position Posting**

September 7, 2010

**IMMIGRATION LAW SPECIALIST**

The Public Defender Division of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) is seeking an Immigration Law Specialist to advise and train CPCS staff attorneys and court-appointed attorneys on immigration consequences of criminal cases, and to provide litigation support on issues involving the interaction between immigration enforcement and the Massachusetts criminal justice system. CPCS is a statewide agency that provides representation to indigent clients in criminal and civil cases in which there is a right to counsel. The Immigration Law Specialist will work under the direction of the Director of the Immigration Impact Unit, which provides advice, training and support to attorneys throughout Massachusetts who represent CPCS clients.

**Description of Office**

CPCS has offices throughout Massachusetts. This position is located in the Somerville office of CPCS, at 21 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA, near the Lechmere T station. The position involves some in-state travel and requires a valid Massachusetts drivers license and access to an automobile.

**Responsibilities**

The Immigration Law Specialist will work closely with others in the Immigration Impact Unit to fully implement the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Padilla v. Kentucky*, which requires criminal defense attorneys to advise clients about potential immigration consequences prior to resolution of their cases. The primary responsibilities of this position include the following:

- Providing immigration advice and support on individual cases to CPCS staff attorneys and court-appointed attorneys throughout Massachusetts;
- Developing and lecturing at training programs for CPCS staff attorneys and private court-appointed attorneys on the immigration consequences of criminal cases;
- Drafting written training materials and practice advisories on relevant immigration law;
- Providing litigation support to CPCS staff attorneys, court-appointed attorneys and indigent clients on post-conviction motions filed to minimize adverse immigration consequences;

- Litigating cases on behalf of indigent clients in cases that involve the impact of Massachusetts criminal convictions on immigration status and the role of the state criminal justice system in the enforcement of immigration law;
- Maintaining the Immigration Impact Unit's website.

### **Requirements**

Candidates for this position must be eligible to practice law in Massachusetts, either as a member of the Massachusetts bar in good standing or as the member of the bar of another jurisdiction eligible to engage in limited Massachusetts practice under Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:04. Prior experience in either criminal or immigration law is required. Experience in the interplay between criminal and immigration law is strongly preferred.

Candidates must have strong analytical and writing skills. Prior appellate experience is preferred. Candidates must be able to work independently and collaboratively, and must be comfortable working with culturally diverse, indigent clients. Foreign language proficiency is not required but would be beneficial.

### **Salary**

The salary for this position is based upon experience.

### **Application**

Interested candidates should submit (1) a resume, (2) a writing sample, and (3) a statement of interest as document attachments to an e-mail directed to [ImmigrationLawSpecialist@publiccounsel.net](mailto:ImmigrationLawSpecialist@publiccounsel.net).

Review of applications will begin on September 28, 2010, but applications may be accepted until the position is filled.

### **This office is an equal opportunity employer.**

The agency actively seeks to diversify its workforce.