



[Home](#) > [PSJD Home](#) > [Search](#) > [Opportunity Details](#)

SUMMER 2019 "CALIFORNIA CHANGELAWYERS" LEGAL FELLOW

Fresno, CA

Application Deadline: 05/27/2019

ROOT & REBOUND

<http://www.rootandrebond.org>

Date Posted: 02/01/2019

Job Type: Legal: Organizational (Internally-Funded)

Schedule: Short term (less than a year) & full-time

Experience: Entry Level 0-3 years

Bar membership required: No

Practice Areas: Administrative Law, Policy

Job Description

Like all R&R law clerks and fellows, the Summer Legal fellow will be trained in "reentry law," a holistic and restorative justice model of legal practice embedded in the needs and goals of systems-impacted individuals. Trained as a "legal generalist", the fellow will learn to serve people across many areas of law & life, understanding how a person's record presents a barrier to employment, housing, education, immigration, health care, asset-building, family reunification, and civil rights.

The ChangeLawyers fellow at the FRWEI will drive forward legal clinics, know-your-rights trainings, and direct services for the women of Fresno and the broader Central Valley. Through direct services and clinics, the fellow will support impacted men and women on the following types of cases: removing unconstitutional parole and probation conditions; post-conviction immigration law to help non-citizens avoid deportation; family law to help formerly incarcerated parents reunify with their children; disability law to secure accommodations for people in recovery/people with disabilities; record-cleaning to reduce the impact of people's past system involvement; criminal fines & fees advocacy that helps lift people out of the lifelong poverty trap of court-ordered debt; and employment and housing discrimination cases, both protecting people's rights as well as spreading awareness of new protections in the law to employers and landlords in the Central Valley.

The Summer Legal Fellow will work closely with and under the direct supervision of the R&R Fresno Staff Attorney in the Fresno office, with additional training and supervision support from K.C. Taylor, Root & Rebound's Associate Director of California Legal Programs, also an experienced reentry attorney.

Primary Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Legal Fellow will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conducting legal intakes and assessments with systems impacted women as part of the FRWEI;
- Conducting legal research and writing to support FRWEI clients and other Central Valley residents with records;
- Helping staff develop legal Know Your Rights trainings both for the women in the program and the broader community of impacted people and stakeholders in the Central Valley;
- Corresponding with people writing to Root & Rebound from prison, and providing writers with follow-up legal guidance and resources on a variety of reentry topics;
- Supporting with Root & Rebound's legal clinics and direct services work in Fresno and the Central Valley;
- Research upcoming relevant criminal justice legislation;
- Strengthen R&R's referral databases of community-based organizations, government agencies, legal and other partners in the Central Valley; and
- Other legal and policy projects to advance the FRWEI and Root & Rebound's legal programs as needed.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate should possess the following qualifications:

- Rising 3L student;
- Experience working with low-income, rural, immigrant, and/or monolingual Spanish-speaking communities preferred;
- Possess a valid driver's license.

Additionally, the successful candidate should have:

- Desire to work with people with criminal records and on criminal justice issues in a dynamic legal environment;
- Demonstrated interest in improving the lives of disenfranchised people and communities;
- Previous experience working directly with clients in a legal clinic setting preferred;
- Strong research and writing skills;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills;
- Strong attention to detail and meticulous follow-up;
- Strong work ethic, positive attitude, sound judgment, and good sense of humor;
- Eagerness to take initiative, solve intricate problems, work on multiple projects simultaneously, and prioritize and organize in a deadline-driven environment;
- Ability to be flexible and adapt well in a changing startup environment;
- A high level of dependability and the ability to maintain a consistent schedule;
- Ability to comfortably and appropriately communicate with a diverse group of stakeholders including formerly incarcerated clients, staff, community partners, board members, and others; and
- Spanish proficiency preferred.

Funding:

The Fellow will be paid \$8,200 plus employee health benefits for this summer internship, made possible thanks to the California ChangeLawyers Fellowship Program.

Salary

Stipend

Application Instructions:

To apply for this position, please send a resume, cover letter, short sample of legal writing (4 pages max.), and at least 2 references with contact information/how they know you in an email to K.C. Taylor, Associate Director of California Legal Services at kctaylor@rootandrebound.org.

Application Deadline: 05/27/2019