

The Human Trafficking Institute

Legal Fellow 2022-2023 (externally funded)

Job Description | April 2021

HTI's Mission

The Human Trafficking Institute (HTI) exists to decimate human trafficking at its source by empowering police and prosecutors to stop traffickers. Working inside criminal justice systems, HTI provides the embedded experts, world-class training, investigative resources, and evidence-based research necessary to free victims.

General Description

HTI will work with the fellow to develop a project that will make them a competitive candidate for post-graduate fellowship funding, such as Equal Justice Works or Justice Catalyst. The project will further one or more areas of HTI's operations, including:

- Performing research and writing articles, op-eds, and other scholarship on complex issues impacting human trafficking law;
- Tracking federal appellate decisions in human trafficking cases;
- Supporting HTI's Amicus Project; and
- Contributing to the development and publication of the 2022 Federal Human Trafficking Report.

The Legal Fellow also may have the opportunity to travel abroad in support of capacity building efforts with HTI attorneys in Belize and Uganda, or to perform assessments of prospective partner countries.

The Legal Fellow position requires a 1-year, 40 hour per week commitment, beginning September 2022. In the event that it should become safe (pending COVID-19 developments) the Legal Fellow should be available to work out of HTI's headquarters in the DC Metro area. The Legal Fellow will report directly to the Associate Legal Counsel.

Responsibilities

Responsibility will vary depending on the fellow's project design, but may include:

- Researching and writing articles and memos on legal issues impacting human trafficking law in the United States as well as comparative law.

- Maintaining a database on recent federal appellate case law in the area of human trafficking.
- Tracking *amicus curiae* opportunities and file briefs in federal circuit court cases dealing with human trafficking issues.
- Building and maintaining a database of judges and attorneys with active human trafficking cases.
- Participating in detailed review process of completed data entries in Federal Human Trafficking database.
- Supporting the Associate Legal Counsel in managing the Douglass Fellowship, including providing feedback on fellow assignments and logistical assistance.
- Assisting HTI's Congressional advocacy through research and writing.

Requirements

- Must be a 2L/rising 3L or otherwise eligible for external funding
- Must be able to secure/propose external funding (e.g., Equal Justice Works, Justice Catalyst, law school stipend)
- Barred or awaiting bar results as of September 2022 (strongly preferred)
- Demonstrated commitment to the field of human trafficking and/or criminal justice
- Prior professional experience, including internships and externships
- Strong legal research and writing ability
- Ability to efficiently and independently produce a professional work product
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Exceptional time management and organizational skills
- Proactive self-starter and innovative problem solver
- Team player with a sustained positive attitude
- Prior experience with WestLaw and, preferably, PACER
- Ability to work with sensitivity and discretion in cross-cultural contexts and on issues pertaining to trauma and trafficking survivors/victims
- Ability to travel occasionally (internationally and domestically, pending COVID-19 developments)

To Apply

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcripts (unofficial or official), and three references to applications@traffickinginstitute.org with the subject line Legal Fellowship 2022. The cover letter **MUST** identify at least one proposed funding source, and describe an idea for the project they would like to develop with HTI to apply for that funding.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. **Applicants are encouraged to apply early to provide ample time for developing a strong project for external funding sources prior to their application deadlines in the fall of 2021.**