



Legal Intern Announcement

Muslim Advocates is currently seeking legal interns. Legal interns will work under the direct supervision of our executive director and full-time staff attorneys leading our two program priorities: ending racial and religious profiling and strengthening the Muslim charitable, nonprofit sector.

Muslim Advocates is a national legal advocacy and educational organization based in San Francisco, CA. Muslim Advocates' mission is to promote equality, liberty, and justice for all by providing leadership through legal advocacy, policy engagement, and civic education, and by serving as a legal resource to promote the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life.

Strengthening the Muslim Charitable, Nonprofit Sector

Since 9/11, Muslim-run charities have faced intensive scrutiny from the U.S. government, resulting in several high profile investigations and prosecutions of community charities. These actions have placed a significant chill over Muslim charities, as well as on donors, volunteers and others who fear public rebuke or law enforcement scrutiny for associating with lawful Muslim organizations. In response, Muslim Advocates seeks to protect First Amendment guarantees of free association, free expression and free exercise of religion and ensure the engagement of Muslim Americans in civic life. To meet these goals, Muslim Advocates pursues a comprehensive advocacy and educational program that includes educating federal policymakers about the impact of enforcement actions on lawful charitable activities, conducting legal and financial educational seminars for nonprofit leaders, and assisting Muslim nonprofit organizations and their leadership with legal compliance and meeting the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance standards of charity accountability.

Ending Racial & Religious Profiling

Muslim Advocates also seeks to end discriminatory law enforcement policies and practices that target Muslim Americans. Muslim Advocates pursues a comprehensive advocacy, litigation and public education campaign that has three objectives: to improve the protection of rights through community education and empowerment; to reform laws and policies through the education of policymakers; and to challenge in the legal system discriminatory and selective enforcement by law enforcement.

Since its founding in 2005, Muslim Advocates has become a respected, knowledgeable voice for Muslim Americans on civil rights and civil liberties issues – representing the fears and concerns of the community to government and law enforcement officials, educating the community about the law and their rights, strategically engaging the media,

and collaborating with allies in the broader national security human rights field.

Time commitment

Spring – Part-time/Summer 2010 – full-time (40 hours per week).

This is an unpaid internship.

Responsibilities

During the year 2010, legal interns at Muslim Advocates can expect to undertake:

- Outreach activities with Muslim charities aimed at improving their operations, increasing transparency, and ensuring legal compliance with anti-terror financing laws and regulations;
- Legal research & writing on topics, including civil rights, executive power, the anti-terror financing laws, and accounting;
- Assisting in organizing educational seminars for nonprofits;
- Facilitating video screenings to educate community members about their civil rights and learn about their encounters with law enforcement authorities;
- Conducting and summarizing intake interviews with individual community members affected by profiling; and
- Working closely with Muslim institutions, community organizations and other important stakeholders.

Qualifications

Muslim Advocates seeks candidates who have:

- Excellent legal research and writing skills;
- Experience working with grass roots organizations and conducting outreach;
- A comfort level working in a fast-paced, dynamic environment and be able to manage multiple projects;
- Strong computer skills – experience with Excel, Macintosh, and a background in working with databases preferred;
- Background in one or more of these areas: finance, accounting, tax, civil rights or a strong interest in one or more of these areas.

Application & Deadline

Please submit a resume, cover letter, references, and brief writing sample (no longer than 5 pages) via email to:

Munleen Soni

Intern Coordinator

Email: munleen@muslimadvocates.org

Questions? Please email or call Munleen at (415) 692- 4931

For more information about Muslim Advocates, visit: www.muslimadvocates.org