



MONTANA LEGAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Position Title: Elder Abuse Attorney
Location: Helena, Montana

The Elder Abuse Attorney provides civil legal assistance to elder abuse victims across the state in partnership with the Legal Services Developer office at the Aging Services Bureau at the State of Montana. The attorney works as part of the MLSA Victim Rights Practice Group and will provide legal services ranging from brief counsel and advice, to more extended representation to elderly victims of abuse, including financial exploitation. This position requires travel within Montana.

Specific Duties

- Interview, meet with, advise and represent victims of elder abuse on civil legal matters.
- Compose correspondence, pleadings and other documents.
- Research the law and prepare memoranda.
- Handle all aspects of a client's legal matter, including preparing pleadings, negotiation, mediation and trial work.
- Develop and maintain specialized knowledge in the areas of law most relevant to elder abuse issues, including: fraud and financial scams; identity theft; financial or material exploitation; bankruptcy or other financial problems related to fraud and exploitation; property crimes, probate, estates, taxes; deception to gain power of attorney, conservatorship, payee or trustee status, or guardianship; and isolation, violence, sexual assault, neglect, and abandonment.
- Other duties as assigned by the Supervising Attorney or the Executive Director.

Requirements

- Law Degree and current license to practice law in Montana or willingness to become licensed to practice in Montana.
- Prior legal services experience preferred, particularly experience working on elder abuse issues.
- A willingness to assume a varied case load.
- An understanding of the civil legal needs of low-income people, including the unique needs of populations that experience particular barriers to access to justice systems.
- Knowledge of substantive legal areas affecting low-income people.
- Ability to effectively communicate with and motivate others.
- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups of people with varying perspectives, experience and expertise.
- Ability and willingness to learn and integrate new technologies and methodologies to efficiently perform responsibilities.
- A willingness to establish and maintain effective relationships with clients, the public, judges, court personnel and the bar.
- Ability and willingness to work cooperatively and collegially within a decentralized statewide law firm.

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently in a deadline-oriented environment.
- A “can do” attitude and a willingness to pitch in where needed.
- Strong commitment to insuring equal access to justice.
- Proficient at the use of technology, including, but not limited to, word processing, spreadsheets, internet-based programs and computer-based legal research.
- Experience working with low income and/or elderly clients preferred.
- Ability to travel within Montana and out of state, occasionally overnight.

The Montana Legal Services Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Salary: \$48,000 and up, DOE. MLSA offers an attractive benefits package, including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, retirement and educational loan repayment assistance.

To Apply: Send a letter of interest, three professional references, writing sample, and resume to [hiring@mtlsa.org](mailto: hiring@mtlsa.org).

Submission Deadline: Screening of applicants will begin on January 7, 2019, and position will remain open until filled.