Brooklyn Legal Services seeks a Deputy Director for its Tenant Rights Coalition in our Brownsville, Brooklyn office.

About Us:

Brooklyn Legal Services, part of Legal Services NYC, provides high-quality, innovative representation to address the pressing legal needs of Brooklyn's diverse low-income population. BLS focuses on the problems that have the greatest impact on our clients — preserving affordable and decent housing, maintaining income support, redressing abusive lending and consumer practices, promoting family stability and mitigating the effects of domestic violence, and advocating for the disabled.

The Tenant Rights Coalition (“TRC”) is dedicated to tenant anti-displacement work in neighborhoods rezoned in recent years by the current administration. The TRC, which is based in Brownsville, has nearly 30 staff comprised of supervisors, attorneys, paralegals, and support staff. Our dedicated staff of housing advocates works with individuals and tenant groups to prevent evictions and support collective tenant action, often in partnership with community based organizers and tenant associations. The work of the TRC focuses on Brownsville, East New York and surrounding neighborhoods.

Roles & Responsibilities:

The Deputy Director will work to support the unit's existing advocacy efforts as well as be responsible for broadening the unit's work. The TRC Deputy Director will work together with two other Deputies to, among other responsibilities:

- Shape the direction and manage the operations and vision of the unit in coordination with TRC’s Citywide Director and BLS’ Director of Litigation;
- Work collaboratively with and provide support for LSNYC’s citywide housing practice;
- Supervise attorneys and paralegals in a range of litigation, including affirmative group litigation, individual client eviction defense in Housing Court, administrative proceedings, and affirmative litigation in State and Federal Court;
- Identify systemic housing-related trends that could be affected by strategic litigation;
- Develop and strengthen relationships with partner community partners, elected officials and agency officials; and
- Some evening and weekend work required for tenant and community meetings;
- Handle administrative and grant responsibilities.

Experience & Qualifications:

We seek an attorney admitted to the New York State Bar with:

- A demonstrated passion for social justice and a commitment to working with low-income communities and communities of color to advance equity;
- Minimum of 5 years housing litigation experience;
- Excellent legal writing, litigation, and advocacy skills;
- Strong interpersonal, teaching/training and organizational skills;
- Demonstrated expertise in local, state and federal housing law and policy, housing court practice, housing programs and subsidies, and public benefits;
- Background in organizing or strong ties to Brooklyn's low-income communities (preferred);
- Prior supervisory experience, experience working with grassroots organizations, experience supporting community-based organizing, and experience with policy, legislative, and media advocacy, are strongly preferred; and
- Proficiency in Spanish or another language commonly spoken in the communities we serve is also preferred.

How to Apply

Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and two writing samples to bkhirring@lsnyc.org. Please write “TRC Deputy Director” in the subject line of the email.

Please, no telephone calls.

BLS offers a generous benefits package. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Legal Services NYC is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. People of color, women, people with disabilities, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, people over 40, and transgender people are strongly encouraged to apply.