



## **Post-Graduate Legal Fellowship Opportunity**

Immigrant Defense Project (IDP)'s litigation practice is interested in sponsoring a post-graduate fellowship candidate for a project-based legal fellowship or a law school-funded fellowship program, with a start date of September 2027.

IDP's litigation team engages in targeted litigation to further our mission of securing justice and fairness for immigrants affected by the criminal legal system. For over twenty years, IDP has played a key role in fighting for immigrant rights before the courts against the backdrop of increasingly draconian laws and policies that use the criminal legal system as a mechanism for deportations and adverse immigration consequences.

Our litigation work challenges the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and arrests, with a focus on ensuring immigrants do not face discrimination in criminal justice reform efforts, expanding immigrants' access to post-conviction relief, protecting application of the categorical approach in immigration cases, and combating criminal bars to fear-based relief. Our litigation further fights against the expansion of immigration incarceration, and unjust and abusive DHS and ICE enforcement practices. IDP's litigation team accomplishes these goals through amicus briefing, technical assistance, and litigation support for cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, Circuit Courts of Appeals, BIA, and Immigration Courts regarding the immigration consequences of prior convictions and criminal system contact.

### Application Process

Application instructions are below. Prospective candidates should submit with their application materials a brief description of the type of work or project they are interested in pursuing. Once the candidate is selected, IDP will work with the candidate to craft a fellowship proposal. The fellow will be supervised by IDP's Litigation Director.

### Qualifications

- Experience with litigation before the federal courts or immigration agencies on issues involving criminal legal system contact and ICE enforcement.
- Excellent legal research, writing, and editing skills.
- Demonstrated commitment to immigrant rights and social justice issues.
- Exceptional organizational and written and oral communication skills.

- Ability to work in a respectful, non-judgmental manner with impacted individuals (including people accused or convicted of serious crimes), and to work collaboratively, respectfully and supportively.
- JD degree at the time the fellowship begins. Admission in good standing or ability to seek admission to any state bar during the first year of fellowship.
- Prior coursework in administrative law and federal courts is a plus.
- Strong command of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Google Suite (Docs, Slides, Sheets, etc.), Adobe Acrobat, and other standard productivity software.

### **TO APPLY**

Please submit a resume and cover letter to [jobs@immdefense.org](mailto:jobs@immdefense.org) with the email subject line “2026 Litigation Fellowship.” In your letter, please include the name(s) of the legal fellowship for which you would like to apply, and a brief description of the type of work or project you propose to pursue and how it aligns with the objectives of IDP’s litigation practice. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, and we encourage you to apply as soon as possible.

*The Immigrant Defense Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer that actively recruits women, people of color, persons with disabilities, persons with diverse gender and sexual identities, immigrants, and formerly incarcerated persons.*