



IJDH Legal Internship – Fall 2017

The Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) is seeking **1-2 legal interns (for a minimum of 10 hrs per week) to work in our New York office on legal advocacy to secure a just UN response to the cholera epidemic in Haiti.** After five years of litigation and advocacy by IJDH and its Haiti-based sister organization, the *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* (BAI), in late 2016 the United Nations issued an unprecedented public apology for the UN's role in causing the worst cholera epidemic in the world in Haiti, and announced the launch of a new plan to improve cholera elimination efforts and provide material assistance to victims.

IJDH seeks legal interns to contribute to our ongoing cholera accountability work to ensure that the UN plan is fully implemented and complies with the organization's legal obligations and the victims' human rights. The Fall Legal Internship is an opportunity for highly motivated law students to participate in developing cutting edge advocacy strategies within the UN system and among member states, and to contribute to the design and implementation of a prospective reparations process. Legal Interns will work closely with attorneys based in New York in an exciting and collegiate environment, on a case that is attracting global attention and breaking new ground on international organization accountability. Interns may also be invited to participate in other non-cholera programmatic work on an as-needed basis.

Unfortunately IJDH is unable to compensate interns. Arrangements for academic credit can be explored.

About Us

IJDH has successfully helped Haitians enforce their human rights since 2004. The Institute partners with BAI to support grassroots struggles for justice in Haiti and in the powerful countries abroad where decisions about Haitians' rights are often made. IJDH and BAI combine traditional legal strategies with organizing, emerging technology and public advocacy to address the root causes of instability and poverty in Haiti.

We fight for justice with routinely excellent legal work, but also with creativity, humility, inspiration and humor, and a supportive work culture. We effect broad changes with modest resources by nurturing large advocacy networks.

Intern Responsibilities

Interns will work with and be supervised by IJDH attorneys on the following:

- Conducting legal and comparative research on large scale reparations and the human right to an effective remedy;
- Supporting advocacy in the UN system, with the U.S. government and other UN member states, including drafting advocacy materials and organizing events;
- Participating in regular team strategy meetings;
- Contributing to media and public campaigning work to advocate for a rights-based UN response to the cholera epidemic in Haiti, including drafting press releases, talking points,

- providing project management support and contributing to social media work; and
- Assisting with other programmatic work related to impunity for a range of human rights abuses in Haiti, on an as needed basis.

Qualifications

- Current 2L, 3L or LLM students with a demonstrated background in human rights, transitional justice and/or the UN system;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- High level of initiative and self-motivation;
- Ability to handle sensitive client relationships and protect the confidentiality of our work and our communications;
- Must be available for a minimum of 10 hours a week for the duration of the internship;
- Proficiency in French and/or Haitian Creole desirable, but not required.

Application Procedure

Law students interested in the Fall Legal Internship should submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, short writing sample, and contact information for two references as soon as possible, and no later **than September 8, 2017**. Please email all application materials to sienna@jjdh.org and include “Legal Intern Fall 2017” in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.