



Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti

Fall 2020 Legal Internship

Position Title: Legal Intern
Start Date: September 2020
Location: New York (with the possibility of remote arrangement)
Reports to: IJDH Legal Director and Senior Staff Attorneys

About Us

The Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) is a U.S.-based human rights non-profit organization that has successfully helped enforce recognition and accountability to human rights in Haiti since 2004. In partnership with its Haiti-based sister organization *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* (BAI), IJDH advocates, litigates, builds constituencies, and nurtures networks to create systemic pathways to justice for marginalized communities.

Position Overview

IJDH is seeking 1-2 part-time legal interns passionate about supporting struggles for justice in the Global South. The Fall Legal Internship is an opportunity for highly motivated law students to work in a fast-paced, creative and exciting environment to advance human rights in Haiti. In partnership with the BAI, IJDH advances groundbreaking legal and advocacy work, and works to hold the United Nations accountable for abuses it commits in Haiti. Interns are fully integrated into our legal and advocacy docket, including efforts towards UN accountability for introducing cholera to Haiti and for peacekeeper sexual exploitation and abuse; international actor accountability for detrimental foreign aid practices; reducing impunity for high-powered criminals; promoting representative and participatory elections; emblematic cases of state violence against civilians, and legal empowerment and access to justice work for marginalized communities in Haiti.

Responsibilities

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

- Domestic and international legal and policy research;
- Supporting advocacy within the United Nations system, with the U.S. government and with international institutions;
- Participating in regular team strategy meetings; and
- Contributing to media and public advocacy work, including drafting advocacy materials, press releases, talking points, providing project management support and contributing to social media work.



Interns must be available for a minimum of 2 to 3 working days per week for the duration of the internship. The internship is intended to be based in New York, with the possibility of a remote start or fully remote arrangement.

Qualifications

- Current 2L, 3L or LLM students with a demonstrated background in human rights, social justice and/or international law;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- High level of initiative and self-motivation;
- Ability to handle sensitive relationships and protect the confidentiality of our work and our communications; and
- Strong verbal and written skills in French; knowledge of Haitian Creole a plus.

Funding

This is an unpaid internship. Arrangements for academic credit can be explored.

Application Procedure

Law students interested in the position of Fall Legal Intern should submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript, short writing sample, and contact information for two references as soon as possible. Please send all application materials electronically to hire@ijdh.org and include “Legal Intern Fall 2020” in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until places are filled, so applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications early on.