

Disaster Recovery Law Clinic, Maurice A. Deane School of Law, Hofstra University

Hofstra Law School, located in Hempstead, NY, is seeking to hire a Visiting Associate Clinical Professor of Law and a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law to join our Disaster Recovery Law Clinic, which provides free legal assistance to individuals and small businesses impacted by "Superstorm" Sandy. Although the storm has disappeared from the national news headlines, many in our local communities are still in great need of legal help in its wake. These are expected to be two-year temporary positions that will begin in January 2014.

In the Disaster Recovery Law Clinic, second- and third-year law students represent people affected by the storm in Long Island and the Rockaways. The clinic's legal work exposes students to both litigation and transactional practice. Clients include homeowners in disputes with insurance companies; tenants in disputes with landlords; individuals seeking public benefits or appealing adverse benefits determinations; homeowners contracting with, or in disputes with, general contractors; and non-profits and community organizations either affected by the storm or providing assistance as part of the ongoing disaster recovery effort. Students engage in client interviewing and counseling, fact investigation, legal research, strategic decision-making, document drafting, mediation, negotiation, and litigation. Because the focus of the clinic is to provide wide-ranging services to people in need, many areas of the law are relevant to the course: administrative law, construction law and contracts, environmental law, insurance law, land use, and property and real estate, among others.

The clinic is a one-semester, 6-credit course for students, with a two-hour classroom seminar each week. The seminars develop students' skills in interviewing, counseling, drafting, negotiation, fact investigation, and trial techniques, and include in-depth discussions on substance and procedure. Our mission is to provide students with a rigorous, hands-on learning experience and the opportunity to develop into skilled, passionate, and ethical lawyers while serving the legal needs of our local communities. We seek not just to provide the experiences of an actual law practice to our students, but to teach our students how to learn from those experiences, and how to translate the knowledge they have gained in their non-clinical law school courses into client representation.

The new hires will be joining the current Clinic Director as we expand from an eight-student clinic to a sixteen-student clinic with separate transactional and litigation tracks. Attorney applicants may be considered for both the more senior and more junior professor positions.

Visiting Associate Clinical Professor

The Visiting Associate Clinical Professor will be responsible for co-teaching the clinic seminar with the Clinic Director, regularly meeting with students in the clinic to review and guide their work, and overseeing many of our cases. The Visiting Associate Clinical Professor will be expected to help us shape the program to make it both the most pedagogically effective and the most helpful for our local communities. He or she will also be responsible for designing and leading some seminar sessions specifically focused on litigation-related topics while the Clinic Director leads sessions on transactional skills.

At the outset, the Clinical Professor will work with the Clinic Director to shape the contours of the newly expanded program. The Clinical Professor will be expected to help with all aspects of the clinic, including course planning and teaching, client selection, supervision and mentoring of law students in representing clients, clinic administration, and community education and outreach.

We seek someone with the following qualifications:

- A JD from an ABA-accredited law school who is admitted to practice in New York State
- 6-12 years of federal litigation experience, with a strong preference for insurance litigation experience
- 1-3 years of experience supervising, managing, and evaluating the legal work of law students and/or new attorneys; clinical teaching experience strongly preferred
- Demonstrated capacity for high-quality, interdisciplinary problem-solving, critical thinking, and professional judgment
- Sensitivity to ethical issues and the ability to analyze applicability of rules of professional responsibility
- Demonstrated commitment to high-quality public interest or pro bono work, with experience in disaster-related legal work preferred
- Fluency in a language other than English preferred

Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor

The Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor will take primary supervision responsibility for some student work and will be asked to help teach some sessions of the seminar. He or she will also work with students to prepare and oversee our participation in community forums and events. The Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor will be expected to help us shape the program to make it both the most pedagogically effective and the most helpful for our local communities. He or she will be expected to help with all aspects of the clinic, including client selection, supervision and mentoring of law students in representing clients, clinic administration, and community education and outreach.

We seek someone with the following qualifications:

- A JD from an ABA-accredited law school who is admitted to practice in New York State
- 4-8 years of experience in one or more of the legal practice areas noted above and experience in both litigation and transactional matters, as well as the willingness and capacity to self-teach new areas of law and/or legal skills
- 1-3 years of experience supervising, managing, and evaluating the legal work of law students and/or new attorneys; clinical teaching experience strongly preferred
- Demonstrated capacity for high-quality, interdisciplinary problem-solving, critical thinking, and professional judgment
- Sensitivity to ethical issues and ability to analyze applicability of rules of professional responsibility
- Demonstrated commitment to high-quality public interest or pro bono work, with experience in disaster-related legal work preferred
- Fluency in a language other than English preferred

To apply: Please submit a letter of interest, resume or C.V., and a list of references or letters of recommendation via email only to Yvonne Atkinson at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, Hofstra University, Yvonne.V.Atkinson@hofstra.edu. Inquiries may be directed by email to Michael Haber, Clinic Director, at michael.haber@hofstra.edu.

The deadline to apply is November 30, 2013.

Hofstra University is an equal opportunity employer, committed to fostering diversity in its faculty, administrative staff and student body, and encourages applications from the entire spectrum of a diverse community.