



Removal Defense Attorney

About the Organization: Building One Community (“B1C”) is a non-profit organization established in 2011 as a comprehensive resource center for immigrants across southwestern Connecticut. B1C’s mission is to advance the successful integration of immigrants and their families.

Our Immigration Legal Services (“ILS”) department began in 2017 and has served more than 750 families and individuals with affirmative applications before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, such as naturalization, adjustment of status, DACA/TPS, consular processing, VAWA and U visas. In 2021, ILS created a new Removal Defense Practice to provide *pro bono* representation to unaccompanied minors and adults, individuals and families.

Position Description: We seek an experienced and enthusiastic **Removal Defense Attorney** who will provide high-quality legal representation to low-income non-citizens in removal proceedings. The ideal candidate will have the vision and the drive to make B1C the premier removal defense program in Connecticut. The Removal Defense Attorney will join a dynamic team that includes another Removal Defense Attorney, two Immigrant Justice Corps law fellows, and a Paralegal. The Removal Defense attorney will work independently and collaboratively on all aspects of cases – including interviewing, counseling, case development and advocacy both in and out of court for unaccompanied minors and young adults, individuals and families. The Removal Defense Practice provides client-centered, holistic advocacy aimed at ensuring all clients are treated with dignity and respect. This full-time, exempt position will report to the Deputy Director until the ILS Director position is filled. Work location will be hybrid (part in-person; part remote).

Main areas of responsibility will include, but are not limited to:

- Represent non-citizens in removal proceedings before the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR), before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).
- Represent unaccompanied minors on their asylum claims before the Newark Asylum Office.
- Represent noncitizens on motions before EOIR.
- Provide or coordinate probate court representation for minors eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS).
- Supervise Removal Defense paralegal.
- Serve as backup supervisor for the two Immigrant Justice Corps Justice Attorneys and their caseload of unaccompanied children's cases.
- Collaborate with the ILS affirmative practice and other B1C departments to provide client-centered, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive legal services.
- Track case law developments in immigration law and policy.

- Participate in public outreach and community education initiatives on immigration issues
- Participate in ILS staff meetings and case management reviews
- Provide required information for grants and contract reporting
- Maintain, organize, and update case files and case management database (LawLogix)

Qualifications:

- Three to five years' experience practicing immigration law, experience in Removal Defense preferred
- Admitted to practice law in Connecticut preferred
- Spanish language proficiency required
- Ability to travel to immigration court in Hartford, CT and the Newark Asylum Office
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest law
- Excellent organizational skills
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively with a team
- Experience working with low-income clients from diverse communities and backgrounds

Building One Community is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To apply for this position, please submit your resume and a cover letter to jobs@b1c.org.