LGBTQ Pro Bono Legal Assistance Reception on June 16 at 6:00 p.m.
The LGBTQ Pro Bono Legal Assistance Project will host a kick-off gathering will be on Tuesday, June 16th, from 6 - 7:30 pm at the New Jersey Research Initiative located at 393 Central Ave, Newark, NJ 07103, and food will be provided. The project, a collaboration of the Rutgers University Diversity Office, the LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York, The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York, and the Rutgers-Newark Law School. To RSVP, please contact Susan Feathers at sjf151@kinoy.rutgers.edu.
**POST GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS: GATEWAY TO PUBLIC INTEREST**

_Excerpt from the recently completed Rutgers Law School Post-Graduate Fellowship Guide_

Fellowships are a gateway for many entry-level public interest jobs. Although many organizations—such as public defender offices; federal, state, and local governments; and most legal services offices—hire entry-level attorneys as a matter of course, a fellowship is often the only path for new attorneys into larger, national nonprofit organizations. Fellowships offer students a unique opportunity to gain invaluable legal experience, while also enabling organizations to expand their service deliver. The following is a brief overview of the types of fellowships (with examples).

**Organization-Based Fellowships**

A number of nonprofit organizations administer their own fellowships. The organization determines the salary, duration of the fellowship, and the scope of the fellow’s work within the organization. Candidates apply directly to the organization, and the organization usually chooses the fellow without outside assistance.

- **Zubrow Fellowship in Children’s Law** ([www.jlc.org](http://www.jlc.org)): The Juvenile Law Center in Philadelphia offers a two-year fellowship for a recent law school graduate to engage in a wide variety of advocacy efforts on behalf of children in delinquency and dependency including training, legislative efforts, litigation, policy work, and some direct representation.
- **Brennan Fellowship**: This is a one-year fellowship at the ACLU’s national legal Department in New York City. The fellow focuses on First Amendment cases.
- **Karpatkin Fellowship**: This is one-year fellowship position in the legal department of its national office in New York City. The fellow works on a range of civil liberties issues with a primary focus on racial justice.

**Project-Based Fellowships**

Some foundations fund fellowships for applicants who develop a specific project in conjunction with a sponsoring nonprofit organization. The funders commonly have particular limitations on the projects that they will fund or have particular issues or types of projects that they prefer. The funders consider the individual applicant’s qualifications; the qualification of the sponsoring organization to house and supervise the project; and the feasibility and benefit of the project.

**Skadden Fellowships** ([www.skaddenfellowships.org](http://www.skaddenfellowships.org)): The Skadden Fellowship Foundation funds approximately 25 fellowships every year to provide civil legal services to underserved groups in the United States. Applicants must be completing law school or a judicial clerkship. Fellows are selected based upon their demonstrated commitment to the public interest, the quality of their project, and their academic performance. The application deadline is the first Monday in October and final selections are made in December.
Equal Justice Works Fellowships (www.equaljusticeworks.org/programs/fellowships): Equal Justice Works (EJW) funds several dozen two-year fellowships annually, with the goal of providing legal services to underserved groups in the United States. Applicants must have a commitment to public interest law as well as the skills and initiative to carry out the goals of their project. The application deadline is in mid-September and fellowships are awarded on a rolling basis until the end of the spring semester.

Firm-Sponsored Fellowships

Law firms have developed a variety of public interest fellowship models. In all of them, the fellow is paid by the firm for a period of time while he or she engages in public interest work. The models are: 1) a law firm places a fellow with a designated public interest organization for a fixed period of time, with or without a commitment to work with the sponsoring law firm; 2) a law firm has the fellow work within the firm exclusively on pro bono matters; and 3) a public interest law firm hires a fellow to work essentially as an entry-level associate for a specific term.

* Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson Fellowship (The fellow works as a litigation associate at the New York firm for two years. Then, the fellow serves as a staff attorney at the Mexican-American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF) in Los Angeles or the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) in New York for two years. The fellow may, but is not required to, rejoin the firm at full seniority. In some cases, the fellow may continue on the MALDEF or LDF staff.

* John J. Gibbons Fellowship in Public Interest and Constitutional Law (www.gibbonslaw.com/about/index.php?view_page=3): Gibbons PC hires one fellow each year for this program, which is centered in Newark, NJ. As associates of the firm, fellows work on public interest and constitutional law projects and litigation. At the end of this two-year fellowship, fellows have the option to remain at the firm with full seniority and follow-through on projects begun during the fellowship. There is no obligation to continue with the firm.

Post-graduate public interest fellowships are an incredible opportunity for those who put in the time and energy required to pursue them. They offer you guaranteed employment for at least a year, generally with competitive salaries (for the public interest realm that is!) and excellent benefits. More importantly, they give you the chance to pursue the exact area of law in which you want to practice.

NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES
Jersey City, NJ
Application Deadline: 06/15/2015

Job Description: Northeast New Jersey Legal Services (NNJLS) is one of the largest providers of free legal assistance in the state, serving a population of great racial, ethnic and socio-economic diversity. NNJLS provides free legal assistance to low-income individuals in Passaic, Bergen, and Hudson County. Due to the overwhelming need for free legal services and the limited resources available, NNJLS greatly relies on the work of volunteers and interns.

NNJLS is currently looking for law students interested in serving as AmeriCorps JD interns with the Employment Opportunity Project, sponsored by Equal Justice Works and AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps JD students earn a $1,212 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award for dedicating 300 hours of service to NNJLS’s Employment Opportunity Project. Students may not receive school credit while serving in the AmeriCorps JD program, but they are eligible to receive other outside funding, such as a public interest scholarship through their law school.

SUMMER PRO BONO OPPORTUNITY

NEW YORK LEGAL ASSISTANCE GROUP (NYLAG)
http://www.nylag.org
Consumer Lawyer for a Day

The New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) provides free civil legal services to low-income New Yorkers. NYLAG clients include immigrants, seniors, the homebound, families facing foreclosure, renters facing eviction, low-income consumers, those in need of government assistance, children in need of special education, domestic violence survivors, persons with disabilities, patients with chronic illness or disease, low-wage workers, low-income members of the LGBT community, Holocaust survivors, and others in need.

The Consumer Lawyer for a Day program provides limited court representation to unrepresented litigants in consumer debt cases in the Bronx, Queens and Staten Island Civil Courts. Volunteers will have the opportunity to represent clients in court, respond to motions, negotiate with opposing
counsel, and argue before a judge. This is an excellent opportunity for a law student to obtain critical litigation skills after extensive training and with close supervision and guidance of an attorney with them on site.

Qualifications
The Consumer Lawyer for a Day program seeks several volunteers to represent clients on site in the Bronx, Queens, or Staten Island. The volunteer must be a current law student, law graduate, or admitted attorney. Ideally, the volunteer would be available at least two days a week (from Monday to Thursday, 9AM-1PM) for at least 3 months.

Application Instructions:
Please email volunteer@nylag.org with your resume and cover letter to apply, and use “Consumer Lawyer for a Day” as the subject line of your email.

PAID FALL INTERNSHIP

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Immigrants’ Rights Project
New York, New York
For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has been our nation’s guardian of liberty, working in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States. Whether it’s ending mass incarceration, achieving full equality for the LGBT community, establishing new privacy protections for our digital age, or preserving the right to vote or the right to have an abortion, the ACLU takes up the toughest civil liberties cases and issues to defend all people from government abuse and overreach. With more than a million members, activists, and supporters, the ACLU is a nationwide organization that fights tirelessly in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C., for the principle that every individual’s rights must be protected equally under the law, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability or national origin.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Immigrants’ Rights Project seeks Part-time legal interns for the fall of 2015, in its New York an office starting in September. A stipend is available for those students who do not receive outside funding and/or course credit. Arrangements can also be made with the student’s law school for work/study stipends or course credit.

The Immigrants’ Rights Project is a national project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation with offices in New York and California. Using targeted impact litigation, advocacy
and public outreach, the Project carries on the ACLU’s historic commitment to protecting the civil rights and civil liberties of immigrants. In federal district and appellate courts, including the Supreme Court, the Project conducts the nation’s largest impact litigation program dedicated to defending and expanding the rights of immigrants, enforcing the guarantees of the Constitution, and achieving equal justice under the law.

The Project has focused on challenging laws that deny immigrants access to the judicial system, impose indefinite and mandatory detention, and constitute discrimination on the basis of “alienage” by governmental and private entities. In addition, the Project has been challenging constitutional abuses that arise from immigration enforcement at the federal, state, and local levels, including litigation against worksite and home raids, local anti-immigrant employment and housing laws, and improper enforcement of federal immigration laws by local sheriffs. IRP’s efforts in the enforcement arena seek to ensure the constitutional protections of the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments, combat racial profiling arising from immigration enforcement that subjects immigrant communities to racism and hostility, and challenge government policies and practices that undermine or deny immigrants’ ability to effectuate their existing legal rights. The Education component of the Project provides information about immigrants’ rights to immigrant communities nationwide. The Project works with the English and non-English language media, immigrant advocacy organizations and ACLU affiliates around the country to empower immigrant communities through presentations about their rights and about current and proposed immigration laws.

Working closely with IRP staff, legal interns will work in all aspects of litigation including legal research, factual investigation, and drafting of memoranda, affidavits, and briefs. Interns may also work with IRP staffs to provide support and advice to ACLU affiliates, private attorneys, and others who seek our help; screening potential cases; and researching or drafting materials for public education. Interns will attend regular staff meetings, as appropriate.

INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW: This internship offers the opportunity to work on a variety of litigation projects. The internship requires a semester-long commitment with a preferred start date of September 1, 2015 and a minimum of 10 hours per week.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Interns will have the opportunity to gain valuable experience by working alongside the Immigrants’ Rights Project team in all aspects of litigation, and will gain experience in conducting legal and policy research; drafting memoranda and brief; and drafting materials for public education.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- One year of law school must be completed before the internship commences.
- Commitment to civil liberties and immigrants’ rights and an interest in working toward racial and social justice.
- Strong writing and research skills.