

95 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12206 (800) 462-2922 ● (518) 462-6765 ● Fax: (518) 427-8352

This office serves Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties.

Victor Mazzotti President Lillian M. Moy
Executive Director

Peter D. Racette
Deputy Director

Wendy Wahlberg
Deputy Director

STAFF ATTORNEY -Low Income Taxpayer Clinic

The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, a nonprofit civil legal services program, is seeking an experienced tax attorney to provide representation in federal and related state income tax matters to low income clients in 16 counties in northeastern New York. The position is located in Albany, NY, the state capital, and a lively family friendly city with a reasonable cost of living, excellent quality of life, and easy access to major metropolitan areas as well as year-round outdoor opportunities.

Our mission is to fight for fairness, dignity, and justice for those living in poverty and for a society which is inclusive and equitable for all. We transform lives, build community and empower people by using the law to address individual and systemic wrongs and inequities.

We seek an attorney who will be dedicated to our mission and will seek justice and fairness for the low income community. We are skilled, creative and compassionate advocates combining a passion to serve with the skills and will to address both individual and systemic injustice. Our office is a collegial and supportive workplace, encouraging and supporting staff development. We take pride in providing holistic services to our clients with a wide range of programs and substantive law expertise.

We are an integral part of the legal and human service community and expect this attorney to be deeply involved in the network of national and regional attorneys providing services to low income taxpayers through Low Income Taxpayer Clinics.

We are looking for an attorney who wants to use their tax knowledge to make a real difference. Our Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) is seeking a creative, effective advocate to lead our LITC efforts. Our clients are:

- Survivors of domestic violence who are being held liable for their abuser's tax debts,
- People with disabilities,
- People who settled debts and ended up with a tax debt they could not pay,
- Victims of identity theft, and
- Other low-income taxpayers facing tax debt and collections that exasperate the hardships that they are facing.

Our LITC opened in 2013. In the last two years alone, our LITC secured tens of thousands of dollars in refunds for our clients while also eliminating more than half a million dollars in tax debt they should not have had to pay.

<u>Responsibilities</u>: The LITC staff attorney will be responsible for representing clients on federal income tax issues in a variety of forums including the United States Tax Court. The attorney will be expected to





provide leadership and possess sufficient tax law expertise to oversee technical, substantive, and procedural tax matters and review all educational materials for accuracy before distribution.

The staff attorney will also advise clients and work with the Clinic Director and another LITC staff attorney and volunteers in community outreach and education activities in the 16 counties served by the LITC. The staff attorney will supervise law clerks and support staff and work with LASNNY's Private Attorney Involvement Program staff and pro bono volunteers. The attorney will also be responsible for maintaining accurate records and securing and entering data for required reports.

<u>Qualifications</u>: Admitted or pending admission to New York State Bar. Three to six years prior legal experience or equivalent preferred. Prior Federal tax experience or LITC Clinic experience preferred. Must have a demonstrated commitment and sensitivity to the low-income community. Must be intelligent, hardworking, and reliable. Must be able to communicate effectively with clients and staff, work independently and efficiently, and be able to problem-solve and work collaboratively with community partner agency staff. Must be willing to travel throughout the 16 county service area, and have a car and a clean valid New York driver's license. Strong computer, administrative, reporting and data entry skills required. Ability to speak Spanish a plus.

<u>Salary:</u> up to \$59,700 DOE. Excellent fringe benefits, including Loan Repayment Assistance (LRAP)

Application Deadline: February 25, 2020

Any applications that do not have a cover letter, resume and writing sample will not be considered.

To apply, please go to www.lasnny.org OR

- 1) Complete the Application linked here, or the mobile-friendly application linked here
- 2) Complete the **Demographic Survey linked here**

We are Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, the elderly, LGBTQ persons, Protected Veterans and people with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.