

ArchCity Defenders, Attorney, Civil Rights & Systemic Litigation

ArchCity Defenders (ACD) is a 501(c)3 non-profit civil rights law firm providing holistic legal advocacy and combating the criminalization of poverty and state violence against poor people and people of color. ACD uses direct services, impact litigation, policy and media advocacy, and community collaboration as its primary tools to promote justice, protect civil and human rights, and bring about systemic change on behalf of the poor and communities of color directly impacted by the abuses of the legal system.

ACD and its partners in the organizing and advocacy community are at the center of efforts in the St. Louis region to:

- Re-envision public safety, promote community well-being through policy change, and hold public actors and institutions accountable for misconduct through litigation and zealous holistic representation.
- Challenge a system of policing, courts, and jails designed to meet municipal financial needs rather than the needs of those they purport to serve. Such practices attracted national spotlight during the 2014 Ferguson Uprising and remain widespread throughout our region.
- Engage in litigation and collaborative advocacy designed to bring abusive practices to an end and empower those communities that have been targeted by such practices.

We seek a skilled attorney to take an attorney position as part of the team leading our landmark civil rights litigation representing poor people, those experiencing homelessness, and communities of color who have been locked in modern-day debtors' prisons, denied counsel and access to the courts, charged illegal fees and fines that have destroyed their lives in the name of profit, and subjected to various forms of state violence.

- This attorney will report to the Managing Attorney for Civil Rights and Systemic Litigation and will play an important role in impact litigation, provide direct representation for plaintiffs, and work collaboratively with the systemic litigation team.
- Must have a demonstrated commitment to civil rights, holistic representation, and systemic change. Looking for a self-starter with a passion for racial justice.

Skills and Qualifications

- J.D. with admission to the Missouri Bar or ability to obtain admission through waiver or reciprocity;
- Demonstrated ability to manage high volume workload effectively;
- Excellent research and persuasive writing skills, including experience drafting persuasive pleadings, motions and memorandum of law;
- Experience with the discovery process, including drafting requests for production of documents and interrogatories, conducting depositions, and related motion practice;
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest law, civil rights, and the mission of ArchCity Defenders.
- Federal court and trial experience preferred.

This is a full-time permanent position with benefits and a salary commensurate with experience and room to grow. Health coverage, 401(k), private office, paid vacation, paid CLEs, and Bar dues.

ArchCity Defenders is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages applications from people of color, persons with disabilities, women, and LGBTQ applicants. Please send a cover letter, resume and writing sample to:

Subject: Attorney, Civil Rights & Systemic Litigation
wendy@wendywerner.com
Wendy L. Werner, Werner Associates, LLC