



Communications & Digital Media Internship

ArchCity Defenders (ACD) is a holistic legal advocacy organization that combats the criminalization of poverty and state violence, especially in communities of color. ACD's foundation of civil and criminal legal representation, social services, impact litigation, policy and media advocacy, and community collaboration achieves and inspires justice and equitable outcomes for people throughout the St. Louis region and beyond.

ArchCity Defenders envisions a society liberated from systems of oppression where the promise of justice and racial equity is realized; communities where our approach to public safety prioritizes investment in well-being, health, and transformation without relying on criminalization and incarceration; and people living freely in their communities, thriving regardless of their race or income.

ArchCity Defenders is working on broad-based change to the St. Louis region's criminal legal system. One way we advance this agenda is through the use of impact litigation. In order to effectively file and argue civil rights impact cases, it is necessary to have extensive knowledge of legal precedents, state and federal statutes, and county and municipal ordinances.

Although impact litigation has become one effective tool for change, ArchCity Defenders remains dedicated to representing our clients and changing the lives of our clients on an individual basis. To this end, we provide direct representation in housing, elder, consumer, family, criminal, and other areas of the law.

ACD's Communications team educates the community about the organization's mission, initiatives, and services; advocates for issues important to our client community; supports the legal work of ACD's staff; provides a platform for our clients to share their stories on their terms; coordinates local, national, and international media relationships; and supports the marketing and fundraising efforts of ACD's Development team. ACD's media advocacy has been instrumental in exposing injustice, countering misrepresentation and distortion of poor people and people of color in mainstream media narratives, and impacting community conversation on issues impacting our region.

ArchCity Defenders is looking for a communications and digital media intern to join its dynamic and innovative communications team. The intern will produce and design content for ACD's website, social media channels, and various digital and print materials; and monitor and track earned news media and social media analytics.

Communications interns function as a part of an interdisciplinary team and coordinate with attorneys and staff to support ACD's mission and expand our reach. A successful intern needs to be assertive, independent, persistent, empathetic, proactive, and flexible. They will need to take initiative, use problem-solving skills, and become a strong advocate for themselves and others.

Responsibilities:

- Present innovative communications/media ideas
- Create written content and take pictures for print publications, events, and marketing collateral materials
- Create written content, take pictures, and produce videos for ACD's website and social media channels
- Update website with various content (WordPress)
- Develop weekly summary reports for Communications Director
- Track earned news media clips (radio, online, print, television)
- Monitor and track Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram analytics
- Conduct issue and policy research on social, legal, racial and/or economic issues
- Attend communications update meetings as needed
- Support the mission of ACD and work with staff to support that mission through communications services
- Any other duties as assigned to help the Communications team do its best work

Qualifications:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suite and curiosity about learning new systems
- Experience / interest in developing accessible and relevant content for social media
- Experience editing and drafting website content
- Knowledge of basic HTML and familiarity designing for the web is preferred
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Detail-oriented approach to working in a team-driven organization
- High capacity for problem solving and self-direction and the ability to work independently within time constraints
- Flexible and able to respond appropriately to ACD's changing needs
- Commitment to racial and economic justice and systems change
- Cultural awareness and sensitivity toward diverse populations; awareness of structures of power, privilege, and oppression

At this time, all internships are unpaid, volunteer positions but there might be paid opportunities that become available. ACD will also work with students who secure funding from outside sources or to obtain class credit where available.

ArchCity Defenders is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages applications from people who identify with historically underserved or underrepresented communities, people of color, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTQIA+, and gender non-conforming applicants. ACD encourages applications from all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, marital status, familial status, citizenship, disability, military or veteran status, and record of arrest or conviction.