

Deborah T. Poritz
Summer Public Interest
Legal Fellowship Program

Summer 2018



Sponsored by Legal Services of New Jersey

The Deborah T. Poritz Summer Public Interest Legal Fellowship has been funded in major part by a grant from the IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey since 1990.

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PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL RESPONSES

Return this application along with a resume and one writing sample (no more than 5 pages in length) to:

**Patti Koncius
Legal Services of New Jersey
100 Metroplex Drive, Suite 402
Edison, New Jersey 08818-1357
Or
pkoncius@lsnj.org**

The Deborah T. Poritz Summer Public Interest Legal Fellowship program awards *paid* summer internships to 1L and 2L law students at New Jersey non-profit public interest legal assistance organizations. Poritz Fellow applications will be considered and hiring decisions will be made on a continuing basis starting in the fall until all positions are filled. Interested students are advised to apply as early as possible. The program seeks people who have demonstrated their commitment to helping the disadvantaged through their prior work, extracurricular activities during school and volunteer efforts, and give evidence of strong commitment to a public interest career. Grades, honors and personal achievements are also important.

APPLICANT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (cell) _____ (home) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

If this is not your permanent address, please give an alternate address and phone number where you can be reached.

LAW SCHOOL: (Please attach a transcript copy)

School _____

Anticipated Date of Graduation _____

Number of credits earned as of May 2018 _____ Number of credits required for completion of JD degree _____

Percentile or Rank _____

GPA (Total and breakdown per semester) Overall GPA: _____

GPA-Year One: S1: _____ S2: _____ GPA-Year Two: S1: _____ S2: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY PREVIOUS PUBLIC INTEREST PAID EMPLOYMENT:

Employer _____

Address _____

Position _____ Dates _____

Duties _____

PREVIOUS PUBLIC INTEREST PAID EMPLOYMENT (CONTINUED):

Employer _____
Address _____
Position _____ Dates _____
Duties _____

**PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY OTHER PREVIOUS PUBLIC INTEREST ACTIVITY:
(Volunteering, internships etc.)**

Organization _____
Address _____
Position _____ Dates _____
Duties _____

Organization _____
Address _____
Position _____ Dates _____
Duties _____

Please describe other relevant experiences that demonstrate your interest in public interest work.

Please list any other information you feel would be of help as we evaluate your application. Include languages, special computer or research skills, other degrees, etc.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Relationship to Reference _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Relationship to Reference _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Relationship to Reference _____

ESSAY QUESTIONS

On separate sheets of paper, please answer the following questions (no more than 1/2 page per question - minimum font size 12 pt.):

1. Please describe with specificity why you are interested in a Poritz Fellowship and what you hope to get out of the experience.
2. Please describe your plans after law school, specifically highlighting whether and how you intend to pursue a public interest legal career, and how you otherwise intend to be involved in public interest legal work.
3. Please describe your feelings about the various public interest activities you listed on the previous page (satisfactions, frustrations) and ways that your experiences shaped your plans concerning public interest work after law school.
4. Please describe the most important or significant of your other public interest activities (highlighting achievements, lessons learned etc.), from among those you listed on the preceding page.
5. Please indicate which areas of public interest law you find most the interesting and why.

**PLACEMENT PREFERENCE IN NEW JERSEY
EMPLOYER AND GEOGRAPHICAL**

EMPLOYER PREFERENCES

Where possible, we will attempt to honor geographical or program preferences, but in many cases such matches will not be achievable, because other candidates have already filled spaces and funds are limited.

LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAMS

LEGAL SERVICES OF NEW JERSEY

Legal Services of New Jersey, located in Edison, coordinates Legal Services statewide and pursues major impact advocacy and policy analysis, major litigation, and direct client representation through numerous special projects including immigration, domestic violence, child welfare, healthcare, workers' rights, foreclosure defense, re-entry, a statewide legal hotline and more. Fellows employed by LSNJ will experience a wide range of legal activities with emphasis on research and writing in support of representation and advocacy, with somewhat less opportunity than the regional programs for direct client contact and representation.

LEGAL SERVICES REGIONAL PROGRAMS

The five regional Legal Services programs have been the principal employers of summer interns. They provide civil legal representation to low-income people in each of New Jersey's 21 counties through 5 field programs. As a regional program fellow you will be given responsibility for client cases, research, drafting pleadings and, for rising 3rd year students, usually some court or administrative agency appearances. These placements focus on direct client representation and legal research.

NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES

Bergen, Hudson, Passaic

LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHWEST JERSEY

Morris, Somerset, Sussex, Warren

CENTRAL JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES

Mercer, Middlesex, Union

SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES

Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May
Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean,
Salem

ESSEX-NEWARK LEGAL SERVICES

Essex

Please indicate your Legal Services employer preferences using a scale of

1- Strongly interested

2- acceptable

3- not interested

Legal Services of New Jersey _____

Regional Legal Services program _____

Please rank from 1 through 6 your degree of interest in the following tasks during your internship

1 –Strongly interested to 6 – not interested at all

Legal research _____

Conducting a client interview _____

Legal writing (memos, pleadings, briefs) _____

Conducting factual investigation _____

Appearing in court _____

OTHER PUBLIC INTEREST LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS

The organizations listed below are some of the many other public interest employers that have been involved in previous years' programs. LSNJ does not guarantee that each employer will be participating this year, and additional public interest legal organizations may be added.

Please indicate your Legal Services employer preferences using a scale of

1- Strongly interested 2- acceptable 3- not interested

Advocates for Children of New Jersey: As a child advocacy organization in Newark, ACNJ emphasizes policy issues; there is usually no opportunity to provide direct legal representation or legal advice. Rating _____

American Friends Service Committee: This immigration rights program seeks to protect the legal rights of immigrants and refugees. Fellows will be involved in legal research writing, as well as some client contact. There is not always the opportunity for direct legal representation. Rating _____

Jersey Battered Woman's Services: This opportunity provides exposure to the work of domestic violence shelters, including legal assistance to victims but generally not direct legal representation of these victims. Fellows may have the opportunity to observe in Court, but are unlikely to participate in direct legal representation. Rating _____

Community Health Law Project: With offices throughout NJ, CHLP provides legal and advocacy services to low-income people with disabilities and to organizations which represent interests of people with disabilities. This opportunity will involve legal research and writing, as well as direct client contact and representation. Rating _____

GEOGRAPHICAL PREFERENCES

Please indicate your Legal Services employer preferences using a scale of

1- Strongly interested 2- acceptable 3- not interested

Please note that as we proceed to match prospective employers and candidates, a (3) rating for geographical area may foreclose our ability to match you with an available intern position.

NORTHEAST: Hudson, Bergen, Passaic, Essex, and Union counties Rating _____

NORTHWEST: Morris, Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, and Somerset counties Rating _____

CENTRAL: Middlesex, Mercer, and Monmouth counties Rating _____

SOUTHWEST: Camden, Gloucester, Burlington, Salem, and Cumberland counties Rating _____

SOUTHEAST: Ocean, Cape May, and Atlantic counties Rating _____

HOUSING

Please indicate if you have housing in NJ for the summer, where it will be, and any additional comments regarding housing preferences or constraints.
