

Law Clerk Program Spring/Summer 2026

To apply to any of the law clerk opportunities listed below, please submit this online form:
<https://forms.office.com/r/XXH9hqx3dM>

Questions may be directed to Christina Yang, General Counsel & Pro Bono Director, at cyang@ajsocal.org. Candidates seeking externship or other academic credit welcome to apply. The opportunities listed below are unpaid.

Agency Description

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL) is the nation's largest Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) legal and civil rights organization and serves more than 15,000 individuals and organizations every year. Founded in 1983, AJSOCAL's mission is to advocate for civil rights, provide legal services and education, and build coalitions to positively influence and impact AAPIs and to create a more equitable and harmonious society. AJSOCAL seeks to serve the most vulnerable members of AAPI communities while also building a strong voice for civil rights and social justice. AJSOCAL is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Impact Litigation Law Clerk

The Impact Litigation Project advocates for social justice through lawsuits that seek to protect and improve the civil rights of low-income, limited English proficient, and immigrant communities, and to change the unlawful or unjust institutional practices of private and public entities that most affect those communities. Our focus is on using litigation as a complement to our organization's direct services and policy advocacy, and we conduct investigation, research, and direct services as needed to inform the cases we litigate. Our key cases have challenged unconstitutional laws, low-wage worker exploitation, human trafficking, and race and national origin discrimination.

Qualifications Requested:

Strong legal research and writing skills, have prior work experience, a strong work ethic, and have demonstrated commitment to public interest work, civil rights, and community empowerment. Diverse 2L and 3L candidates, including candidates contemplating applying for post graduate fellowships in the future and seeking a host organization highly preferred.

Duties May Include:

Supporting attorneys in litigation and pre-litigation case work in the areas of voting rights, fair housing, workers' rights, household economic rights, and other civil rights areas; conducting legal research and writing; reviewing records and other documents for facts relevant to case investigation, and assisting with client-related tasks such as client interviewing and preparing for depositions.

Representative sample of cases pursued:

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- Challenged ICE detention of non-dangerous detainees at heightened risk of catching and dying of COVID-19 in the under-protected high-risk detention environment
- Challenged multiple cities' current "at-large elections" voting scheme, which diluted the city's Asian American voting power in violation of the California Voting Rights Act
- Challenged group of inter-related companies who misclassified and exploited hundreds of Korean and Latino port truck drivers in violation of state labor law
- Challenged employers who subjected Filipino guest workers to human trafficking, national origin discrimination, racketeering based on visa fraud, retaliation, and related common-law claims
- Numerous administrative advocacy cases, primarily before the State Labor Commissioner's Office and United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Language Requirements:

Bilingual ability in English and Korean, Thai, Mandarin, or Cantonese highly preferred. Bilingual ability in English and any other Asian language also preferred.

Schedule Requirements:

For Spring/Summer 2026, seeking a hybrid law clerk for a minimum commitment of 40 hours/week for 10 weeks.

SAFE Law Clerk

The SAFE Project assists low-income and limited-English-speaking survivors of domestic violence with family law services, including helping them obtain restraining orders, child custody, and support orders.

Qualifications include:

Successful completion of law school evidence and professional responsibility courses preferred. Experience working with domestic violence survivors or with low-income immigrant communities is preferred. Demonstrated commitment to public interest and prior non-profit experience also preferred. Experience working in an office setting or law office is helpful.

Duties may include, but are not limited to:

Provide support for casework, including, but not limited to: conducting interviews with prospective clients, follow-up with existing clients, preparing family law paperwork, drafting client declarations, and conducting limited legal research. Interns/law clerks will also perform certain administrative duties as needed. Duties may also include interpretation and translation work, based on the candidate's bilingual fluency.

Language Requirements:

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Bilingual fluency in English and one of the following languages strongly preferred: Mandarin, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, or a South Asian language (Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati).

Schedule Requirements:

For Spring/Summer 2026, seeking hybrid law clerks for a commitment of 40 hours/week for 10 weeks.

Home Preservation Law Clerk

The Home Preservation ("HP") program provides assistance in homelessness prevention including eviction defense assistance, housing and discrimination issues, and community education that expands access to housing rights justice for low-income limited English proficient immigrants.

Qualifications include:

Successful completion of law school evidence and professional responsibility courses preferred. Experience working with housing/eviction issues with low-income immigrant communities is preferred. Demonstrated commitment to public interest and prior non-profit experience also preferred.

Duties may include, but are not limited to:

Provide support for casework, e.g., conducting interviews with prospective clients, follow-up with existing clients, preparing eviction paperwork, drafting client declarations, drafting demand letters to landlord, propounding and responding to discovery, and conducting limited legal research, along with limited administrative duties as needed. Duties may also include interpretation and translation work, based on the candidate's bilingual fluency.

Language Requirements:

Bilingual fluency in English and one of the following languages strongly preferred: Mandarin, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, or a South Asian language (Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati).

Schedule Requirements:

For Spring/Summer 2026, seeking hybrid law clerks for a commitment of 40 hours/week for 10 weeks. Strong preference for a hybrid law clerk who is willing to work out of our OC office in Santa Ana regularly.

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Immigration Project Law Clerk

The Immigration Project at AJSOCAL assists immigrants nationally and locally who are seeking help with immigration relief such as DACA renewals, U Visa, VAWA, adjustment of status, representation in immigration court, and other forms of family-based immigration. The Immigration Project hosts free workshops and information sessions accessible to community members across Los Angeles County, to assist undocumented immigrants for little to no cost. Immigration consultations are also available by appointment only.

Qualifications include: Experience working with immigrants or with low-income communities is preferred. Demonstrated commitment to public interest and prior non-profit experience also preferred.

Duties may include, but are not limited to: Provide support for casework, including, but not limited to: following up on intake calls, conducting interviews or immigration screenings with prospective clients, follow-up with existing clients, preparing immigration applications, drafting client declarations, and conducting limited legal research, along with limited administrative duties as needed. Duties may also include interpretation and translation work, based on the candidate's bilingual fluency.

Language Requirements: Bilingual fluency in English and an Asian language preferred but not required.

Schedule Requirements:

For Spring/Summer 2026, seeking hybrid law clerks for a commitment of 40 hours/week for 10 weeks.