

**JOB TITLE:** Advocacy Counsel

**REPORTS TO:** Advocacy Director

**DEPARTMENT:** Advocacy

**FLSA STATUS:** Exempt

**LOCATION:** Cleveland

**DATE:** February 2019

**POSITION SUMMARY:** Responsible for leading statewide advocacy on the ACLU of Ohio's bail reform campaign and developing leads on future priority issue campaigns.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**Implement and develop local and statewide bail reform campaign**

- Work with the Advocacy Director to integrate advocacy, legislative, and legal strategies on bail reform while coordinating with the Campaigns Department to ensure progress towards shared goals
- Coordinate the day-to-day progress of advocacy components to the bail reform campaign
- Work with national and local partners to develop best practices and recommendations for bail reform, and ensure they are implemented to best maximize reform efforts

**Initiate and foster relationships with stakeholders and elected officials both locally and statewide**

- Build coalitions and partnerships with other organizations in coordination with the Campaigns team
- Communicate regularly with elected officials and systems stakeholders to manage reform efforts and troubleshoot potential problems or delays in adoption and implementation of new policies or procedures

**Partner with the legal and legislative departments where appropriate**

- Oversee the production of policy and legal research analyses designed to affect change by state and local policymakers
- Supervise the integration of legislative work into ongoing campaign
- Work collaboratively with colleagues in the legal department and National ACLU to plan strategic use of litigation, legal advocacy and other tactics, where appropriate

**Convey the mission, policies, and advocacy efforts of the ACLU to a variety of constituencies to keep associates informed and to get buy in for power**

- Grow the ACLU's base of support for bail reform through strategic public education, advocacy, and communications tactics
- Represent the ACLU at public forums, conferences and meetings, and to the media
- Supervise the production of bail reform advocacy materials in collaboration with other staff members, including action alerts, talking points, issue briefs, letters, press statements, opinion editorials, website updates, and legislative and public policy reports

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- J.D. with 1-3 years of legal or advocacy experience in civil liberties, civil rights, criminal defense, or public policy
- Exceptional analytical, research, writing, and oral advocacy skills
- Demonstrated ability to interact effectively with staff, volunteers, the media and the public
- Ability and willingness to call elected officials and stakeholders without any formal introduction
- Proven ability to meet deadlines and follow through with complex tasks
- Ability to synthesize complex issues and effectively communicate them to diverse audiences including elected officials, attorneys, advocates, impacted communities, supporters and the general public
- Experience working in a team environment and participating in external coalition

- Knowledge of the legislative process
- Demonstrated commitment to advancing the ACLU's values, mission and goals

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- Ability to drive, and have complete accessibility to, a car
- Ability to work beyond 40 hours per week to accommodate a demanding schedule
- Ability to attend regular evening and weekend meetings and events
- Ability to frequently travel across Ohio by car
- Communicating effectively with people in person and via telephone, fax and email
- Comfortable speaking publicly

**NON-ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- Lifting and carrying 25 pounds