



NONHUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

Position Description: Litigation Program Director

About the Nonhuman Rights Project

The Nonhuman Rights Project is the only civil rights organization in the United States dedicated solely to securing rights for nonhuman animals. Our groundbreaking work challenges an archaic, unjust legal status quo that views and treats all nonhuman animals as “things” with no rights. We work to achieve our message in three ways: (1) Litigation (changing the legal status quo and catalyzing a global conversation about how nonhuman animals are viewed and treated under the law); (2) Legislation and Advocacy (building grassroots support at the local, national, and global levels and working to pass the first nonhuman rights laws in the US); and (3) Education (raising awareness of the need and basis for nonhuman rights and providing resources to empower others to join the fight). You can learn more about our work on [our website](#).

Position Description

This is a unique opportunity for a very experienced attorney to serve as the number two litigator under the direction of the President of the organization, Steven Wise. The ideal candidate will have extensive experience preparing and arguing complex cases. The candidate will provide guidance to and serve as a member of the legal team and should enjoy spirited discussions with colleagues. The candidate should be a skilled public speaker and should be comfortable meeting with major donors.

This is a full-time remote US-based position.

Primary responsibilities

- Serve as a strong number two litigator under the direction of Steven Wise
- Supervise NhRP staff attorneys in drafting and filing petitions, pleadings, memoranda and other documents
- Argue cases in court
- Represent NhRP on litigation-related matters at public events and act as a media spokesperson
- Meet with major donors
- Manage the day-to-day litigation team operations
- Develop and manage the annual operating budget for the litigation team; provide leadership to ensure strategic use of NhRP resources
- In partnership with the Chief Operating Officer, coordinate performance evaluations for litigation team members

- Other duties as assigned by the President or Chief Operating Officer

Skills and Experience Needed

- Juris Doctor from an accredited law school
- A minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience developing and litigating significant cases or projects; legal advocacy experience preferred but not required
- Admission to the bar in at least one US state
- Powerful commitment to civil rights and civil liberties consistent with the mission and goals of the NhRP; genuine passion for NhRP's mission and an understanding of the difference between animal welfare and animal rights
- Ability to work independently with a high level of initiative while also responding well to feedback and direction when given
- Ability to work remotely and independently and to manage a remote team
- Ability to multitask and be flexible regarding assignments
- Positive attitude, exceptional people skills, sense of humor, and comfort in fostering and contributing to a friendly, supportive, inclusive, and team-oriented environment

Salary

The salary for this position is approximately \$150K, commensurate with the candidate's skill and experience.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit a resume, cover letter describing why you are a good candidate for this position, three references and **a 500-word essay on the strengths and weaknesses of NhRP's legal strategy to date**. This material should be submitted to: jobs@nonhumanrights.org. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until a candidate is hired. Select candidates will be contacted and invited to participate in next steps in the selection process.

The Nonhuman Rights Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer and acts in accordance with applicable laws in all of our hiring and employment practices. NhRP considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender identity, national origin, age, ability, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or any other protected factor under federal, state, or local law.