

Agency	Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission	Work unit	Family Law Practice
Job title	PRF Solicitor	Designation	Professional 2 (P2)
Job type	Full Time	Duration	15 Months
Salary	\$88,204 - \$105,445 plus superannuation & salary sacrifice	Location	Katherine
Position number	Supernumerary	Closing	4pm Thursday 5 October 2023
Contact Officer	Human Resources on 08 8999 3000 or <a href="https://humanresources@legalaid.nt.gov.au">humanresources@legalaid.nt.gov.au</a>		
About the agency	www.legalaid.nt.gov.au		
Apply online	Please submit applications to <a href="mailto:recruitment@legalaid.nt.gov.au">recruitment@legalaid.nt.gov.au</a>		
Information for applicants			

#### Information for applicants

To be considered for this position, applicants must attach a resume, a statement addressing the selection criteria (maximum 2 pages), and copies of your tertiary qualifications.

# Inclusion and diversity

Legal Aid NT values diversity. We encourage people from all diversity groups to apply for vacancies and accommodate people with disability by making reasonable workplace adjustments.

#### **Context statement**

The Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission (Legal Aid NT) is an independent statutory authority established under the *Legal Aid Act* 1990 (The Act). Our purpose is to ensure that people in the Northern Territory understand their legal rights and disadvantaged people have access to quality legal services, and to uphold a fair Northern Territory and national justice system.

# **Primary objective**

Under the direction of the Darwin based Managing Solicitor of the Family Law Practice, this position will primarily provide high quality legal advice, legal task assistance and duty lawyer services to people seeking legal assistance in responding to applications for Domestic Violence Orders under the *Domestic and Family Violence Act* (NT) in the Katherine Local Court. The position may also provide assistance to clients in related areas of law, such as child protection and family law.

# Key duties and responsibilities

- 1. Provide high quality legal advice, representation, legal task assistance, and duty lawyer services to clients who are defendants to applications for a domestic violence order in the NT at the Local Court in Katherine.
- 2. Provide integrated legal assistance services including referral, legal support and advice for families affected by family violence by assisting clients of the service to engage with legal processes safely and to provide support to families transitioning between and across the Commonwealth Family, NT Family Violence, and NT Child Protection jurisdictions.
- 3. Ensure the delivery of high-quality legal information, education, advice, advocacy and legal task assistance and representation to members of the community, with a priority focus on assisting vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people, in civil and family law matters.
- 4. Work collaboratively and in a teamed approach with the support workers who may assist clients.
- 5. Liaise and network with relevant organisations and individuals to ensure high levels of collaboration with relevant agencies and to minimise duplication of legal services.
- 6. Maintain and improve professional standards by keeping up to date with developments in relevant areas of legal practice; participating in professional development activities in relevant areas of legal practice; and complying with the Continuing Professional Development requirements of the Law Society of the Northern Territory.
- 7. Participate in community legal education, law reform and policy initiatives as required.
- 8. Ensure compliance with the *Legal Profession Act* (NT), the *Legal Aid Act 1990 (NT)*, the Legal Aid NT Guidelines, the National Partnership Agreement and funding arrangements for the provision of legal services.
- 9. Maintain effective file management systems and internal quality assurance procedures consistent with the administrative systems, procedures and policies utilised by Legal Aid NT.

### **Selection criteria**

#### **Essential**

- 1. Admission or eligibility for admission as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory of Australia.
- 2. A minimum 2 years' post-admission experience in relevant legal practice, including substantial experience representing clients in court.
- 3. Demonstrated knowledge and awareness of the dynamics, impact, and effect of family violence on families.
- 4. A working knowledge of the principles of working with perpetrators of family violence.
- 5. Demonstrated knowledge and awareness of the issues impacting First Nations people and disadvantaged families in the NT, including knowledge of current legal issues and the provision of legal services in the NT.

- 6. Excellent oral and written communication skills, the ability to communicate with people from diverse backgrounds including the use of interpreters in legal service provision.
- 7. Demonstrated high-level initiative including the ability to work in a multidisciplinary team as well as with minimal supervision in undertaking tasks and addressing challenges including the ability to deal with competing demands.
- 8. Commitment to legal aid values and an understanding of Northern Territory justice issues and the legal assistance sector.

#### Desirable

- 1. 5 years post-admission experience in relevant legal practice including substantial experience representing clients in court and in dispute resolution processes.
- 2. Understanding of the practice and policy concerns relevant to providing legal assistance to clients with allegations of domestic violence against them or with a history of using violence including an understanding of specific issues affecting people who have a history of using violence.

# **Additional Position Requirements**

- The successful applicant will be required to obtain and hold a Working with Children Clearance notice and undergo a criminal history check. A criminal history will not exclude an applicant from this position unless it is a relevant criminal history.
- The successful application must a hold a current NT 'C' class driver's licence or the ability to obtain as per the requirements of the NT Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) Road Users' Handbook.