

Duty Statement

Agency	Legal Aid NT	Work unit	Domestic Violence Legal Service
Job title	Solicitor	Designation	Professional 2 (P2)
Job type	Full Time	Duration	12 Months
Salary	\$92,910 - \$110,781 plus Superannuation (salary packaging options available)	Location	Darwin
Position number	Multiple	Closing	4pm Tuesday, 14 April 2025
Contact Officer	Hanna Daych on 08 8999 7977 or hanna.daych@dvls.nt.gov.au		
About the agency	www.legalaid.nt.gov.au		
Apply online	Please submit applications to recruitment@legalaid.nt.gov.au		

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 relevant 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.

About Legal Aid NT

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.

The Domestic Violence Legal Service (DVLS) is a specialised standalone service operating under the auspices of Legal Aid NT, providing information, education, advocacy, referral, legal and social support, legal advice, and legal representation services to victims of domestic violence in the Darwin and Greater Darwin area.

Primary objective

Under the supervision of the Managing Solicitor, provide information, education, advocacy, referral, legal support, legal advice, and legal representation services to victims of domestic violence in the Darwin and Greater Darwin area.

Key duties and responsibilities

1. In conjunction with the Managing Solicitor, plan and deliver high quality legal representation, advice, information, advocacy, education, and assistance to identified target groups and members of the community.
2. Provide timely and effective representation of clients in domestic violence and associated matters by conducting negotiations, preparing high quality documentation, and appearing as a solicitor and counsel in the Darwin Local Court and other courts as necessary.
3. Provide initial family law advice and limited minor assistance where family law matters directly relate to the domestic violence matters of clients.
4. Identify legal and non-legal issues to ensure appropriate referrals to other legal services and non-legal services.
5. Ensure the delivery of DVLS services is conducted in a culturally appropriate and responsive manner and informed by a sound understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and effects of trauma.
6. Liaise and network with relevant organisations to ensure high levels of collaboration with relevant agencies and minimise duplication.
7. Ensure compliance with the *Legal Profession Act*, the DVLS guidelines, and all legislation, subordinate legislation, and professional standards applicable to the conduct of the legal practice.
8. Identify and advise the Managing Solicitor of wider policy issues arising from DVLS services and develop strategies to advocate to relevant agencies in relation to those issues.
9. Assist with the development and delivery of community legal education to other legal services and domestic violence service providers.
10. Other reasonable duties as directed by the Managing Solicitor, including contributing to continuous improvement of service delivery and participating in law reform and policy initiatives as required.

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. Demonstrated experience in providing legal advice, information, and appropriate referrals to other legal and non-legal services to clients from diverse backgrounds.
3. Ability to represent and appear for clients in Court on a duty basis and at hearing in domestic violence proceedings.
4. Ability to negotiate with police representatives, defendants, prosecutors, and others on behalf of clients.

5. Demonstrated knowledge of dynamics of domestic and family violence and the ability to respond effectively to clients affected by domestic violence, trauma and in crisis situations.
6. High level verbal and written communication skills; including the ability to communicate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds, including Culturally and Linguistically Diverse and First Nations people.
7. Understanding of and ability to maintain client confidentiality.
8. Demonstrated ability to work both independently and as part of a small team and use initiative with minimum supervision.
9. Commitment to continuous improvement of service delivery.
10. Commitment to legal aid values and an understanding of Northern Territory justice issues and the legal assistance sector.

Desirable

1. A minimum of 2 years post-admission experience in domestic violence law and practice or a related practice area.
2. Knowledge of NT Domestic and Family Violence law and practice.
3. Knowledge of the *Family Law Act 1975 (Cth)*.
4. Experience in the preparation and delivery of community legal education information and resources.

Further Information

- 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 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.