

Mercy Law Resource Centre

25 Cork St, Dublin 8

Phone: 01 4537459

Fax: 01 4537455

Email: info@mercylaw.ie



Title:	Locum Solicitor – maternity cover
Employer:	Mercy Law Resource Centre Limited (MLRC)
Reports to:	Managing Solicitor
Salary:	Commensurate with experience
Working Hours:	Full-time: 9.30am to 5.30p.m. Monday to Friday
Duration:	Fixed 9 month contract with immediate start to cover a period of maternity leave
Location	Mercy Law Resource Centre, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8

Background information

Mercy Law Resource Centre (MLRC) is an independent law centre, company limited by guarantee and registered charity. MLRC uses the law to help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It does this through:

- Free legal advice via phone triage, referrals and clinics held in hostels and drop-in centres for those who are homeless or facing homelessness;
- Free legal representation;
- Policy work where we advocate in relation to laws, policies and attitudes that are particularly harsh for our clients;
- A befriending service, where our clients who are without supports, are, if they want to, matched with a volunteer befriender. The volunteer befriender is a steady support for the client as they navigate their way through the difficult time of asserting their legal entitlements; and
- Legal support and training for organisations and professionals working in the field of housing and homelessness.

For more details on MLRC's work, please see our website www.mercylaw.ie

Role of Locum Solicitor with MLRC

The specific responsibilities of the Locum Solicitor will be:

- Management of a caseload, with particular emphasis on housing law;
- Provision of legal advice and assistance to individuals by phone or through legal advice clinics;
- Provision of legal information and advice to organisations dealing with homelessness, in respect of individual client queries;
- Provision of training on housing law and participation in focus groups with organisations dealing with housing and homelessness;
- Legal research and law reform and policy work, including preparation of policy submissions as directed by the Managing Solicitor;
- Liaising with external organisations regarding the promotion and development of the law centre and the achievement of its goals and objectives;
- Working as part of a team towards the strategic goals of the Centre and to ensure that high standards are developed and maintained in office procedures and case management and, in particular, to ensure that our services are delivered in a way that respects the special needs of our clients; and
- Such other tasks as may be necessary to assist in the carrying out of the work of MLRC.

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Requirements

Essential Requirements

- Appropriate degree.
- A professional qualification as a solicitor.
- Knowledge of public interest law and demonstrated interest in the principle of access to justice.
- Experience in litigation.
- Experience in legal practice.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and a capacity to be compassionate and respectful in one's approach to clients.
- A professional attitude with an ability to work as part of a team, under pressure and to act on one's own initiative.
- Enthusiasm and commitment.
- IT skills.

Desirable Requirements

- Experience of litigation at Superior Court level would be an advantage.
- Experience of judicial review/human rights law would be an advantage.
- Masters in human rights law/public interest law.
- Experience in human rights/social justice work and/or in the community and voluntary sector.

Terms and Conditions

The position of Locum Solicitor will be offered as a fixed 9 month contract with immediate start to cover a period of maternity leave. The salary offered is commensurate with experience. This is a full-time fixed term contract position based at Mercy Law Resource Centre, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8, subject to remote working arrangements where required due to COVID-19 restrictions. This role is ideally full time, however a less than full time working arrangement may be considered.

Application

Please email a CV and cover letter to the MLRC Managing Solicitor, Aoife Kelly-Desmond, at aoife@mercylaw.ie. Alternatively, please send by post to Managing Solicitor, Mercy Law Resource Centre, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8. Incomplete applications will automatically be disqualified.

Closing date for applications is 5pm on Monday 26 April 2021.

MLRC is an equal opportunities employer.