



Juvenile Justice Advocates International

Legal Intern Position (Mexico)

Summary

Juvenile Justice Advocates International is seeking legal interns to work on a juvenile detention research project and an international/multinational legal research project in coordination with multiple international nongovernmental organizations.

Organization Description

Juvenile Justice Advocates International is an NGO devoted to making a large impact for children in prison around the world. Our mission is to advocate for policy reforms in the juvenile justice system to improve respect for human rights for the most vulnerable. JJAI's vision is that children should only be imprisoned as a last resort in extreme circumstances and for the shortest period of time possible. We work towards this goal by:

- Providing advice, consulting, capacity building, training and other services to governments and non-governmental organizations to improve the respect for human rights.
- Conducting research on and advocate for increased access to justice for marginalized populations in the criminal justice system.
- Assisting to implement reforms that reduce over-use of detention, improve prison conditions, improve and establish community reintegration programs and decrease delinquency among juveniles and other marginalized populations.

Position Description

Legal researcher will assist with two research projects.

International Research: conduct research on international law, regional law and foreign law related to juvenile justice standards and detention of children. The intern will be part of a team and help coordinate research among multiple researchers in Latin America and Europe. The research will be used by our organization to advocate for legal changes and will be foundational in setting international standards that do not currently exist. The legal researcher will be responsible for conducting legal research at the national and international level in multiple countries, submitting data requests to governments and NGOs, and conducting research into the physical, psychological and social impacts of juvenile detention.

Juveniles in Detention in Mexico: intern will conduct research in the juvenile justice system, primarily through interviews with teens in detention, families of teenagers and justice sector officials. The interviews are part of our ongoing projects to assess the use of detention in the country, conditions of detention and identify possible human rights abuses in the system.



Juvenile Justice Advocates International

Specific job responsibilities may include:

- Analyzing local and/or national laws and current legal climate.
- Writing and submitting data requests to applicable national agencies.
- Researching regional case law in the Inter-American, European and African systems, as well as the universal mechanisms such as the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child the UN Committee against Torture, and the Universal Periodic Review.
- Coordinating with our research partners in Latin America, Europe and the United States.
- Conduct research on Mexico's juvenile justice laws.
- Conduct interviews in Mexican detention facilities with teenagers and their families.

Qualifications:

- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Resourceful and flexible.
- Professional proficiency in English and Spanish.
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills.
- Demonstrated interest in criminal justice, defendant's rights, children's rights, or international human rights.
- Relevant course work including: international law, criminal law, evidence, juvenile justice law, or clinic.
- Experience conducting research on foreign law a plus.
- Experience working with at-risk, marginalized or traumatized populations a plus.
- Graduate or undergraduate course work related to research methodology preferred.
- International experience preferred.

Date Position Available: Rolling

Start Date: (flexible)

Hours: Very flexible, but average of 30 hours per week or more, willing to adjust depending on internship/externship requirements.

Compensation: None. Candidates are encouraged to seek outside funding to cover living expenses. JJI is willing to assist with internship academic requirements or funding applications. We have successfully obtained funding for past interns.

Contact Information

Douglas Keillor – Director
douglas@jjadvocates.org
(763) 280 3659