



DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING

2017 SUMMER HONORS PROGRAM

TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDE:

- ⇒ Drafting complaints, motions and trial pleadings
- ⇒ Preparing mediation briefs
- ⇒ Drafting discovery requests and responses
- ⇒ Leading investigations of complaints of discrimination and making recommendations regarding whether particular matters should be litigated
- ⇒ Assisting in the preparation for, and attending depositions, court appearances, mediations and trials
- ⇒ Helping to shape public policy and discourse by conducting research and preparing legal memoranda and public presentations for attorneys and the DFEH executive staff



The California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), seeks law students with a passion for enforcing the civil rights laws protecting people in the most populous and diverse state in the country. The DFEH Summer Honors Program is a volunteer law clerk program designed to give students substantive practical experience investigating, mediating and litigating civil rights cases.

The DFEH investigates and litigates claims of unlawful discrimination and hate violence in employment, housing and public accommodations. Working closely with experienced and diverse DFEH attorneys in investigating and prosecuting individual and class/systemic cases under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Unruh Civil Rights Act, Ralph Civil Rights Act, and Disabled Persons Act, participants in this highly competitive program will have the opportunity to develop practical civil litigation skills.

Recent summer experiences including trial preparation for an employment discrimination matter involving a transgender male applicant whose job offer was rescinded when he revealed his gender, a statewide case involving emotional support animals and mental health accommodations in housing, and a failure to promote case that went to jury verdict for discrimination based on sex, ethnicity and national origin.

Second year students and outstanding first year students are encouraged to apply. Desired qualities include excellent legal research and writing skills, academic achievement, a demonstrated commitment to public service and civil rights advocacy, and the ability to work both independently and collaboratively. While the position is unpaid, past participants have qualified for public interest grants and work-study offered through their respective law schools.

DFEH seeks a diverse workforce and recruits summer law students without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, gender expression, marital status, or mental or physical disability.

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO APPLY FOR THE 2017 SUMMER HONORS PROGRAM

Please submit your cover letter indicating your preference, if any, between Sacramento and Los Angeles, along with a resume, a current transcript (if available), and at least one writing sample of no more than five pages.

- Application should be submitted via e-mail to: SummerHonorsProgram@dfeh.ca.gov
- It may be mailed to:
Irina Trasovan, Staff Counsel
Department of Fair Employment and Housing
320 West 4th Street, Suite 1000
Los Angeles, California 90013.

Questions should also be directed to SummerHonorsProgram@dfeh.ca.gov. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, but must be postmarked or emailed no later than: **January 15, 2017.**