



FARM & FOOD LEGAL FELLOW

The Yale Environmental Protection Clinic (EPC) and Yale Community and Economic Development Clinic (CED), in collaboration with the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), seek to hire a Farm and Food Legal Fellow to begin in September 2017.

The Legal Fellow will work under the supervision of the EPC director, CED director, CLF's Director of Farm and Food, and other program staff. The Legal Fellow will spend approximately half of their time establishing and coordinating CLF's Legal Food Hub program in Connecticut, and the remaining time on clinical projects and independent research within the EPC and CED. The Legal Fellow's primary responsibilities will include developing and overseeing a direct legal assistance *pro bono* network (the new Connecticut branch of CLF's Legal Food Hub program), conducting outreach and trainings on farm and food legal issues, communicating with the press and the public, supervising or supporting student projects related to farm, food, sustainability, and developing community-based connections and relationships. The position requires a creative and outgoing self-starter with the confidence to forge new paths.

The Legal Fellow will be based at Yale Law School in New Haven, CT. The position will be full-time for one year with a second year preferred depending on funding.

Organizational Background

The Environmental Protection Clinic is an interdisciplinary clinic that addresses environmental law and policy problems on behalf of client organizations such as environmental groups, government agencies, and international bodies.

The Community and Economic Development Clinic provides transactional legal services to clients seeking to promote economic opportunity and mobility.

Conservation Law Foundation is a non-profit, member-supported law and policy advocacy organization based in Boston with several offices throughout New England. Founded in 1966, CLF's mission is to advocate on behalf of the region's environment and communities.

The Legal Food Hub program is a free legal services clearinghouse that provides pro bono legal assistance, workshops, and trainings to for farmers, food entrepreneurs, and related organizations in order to foster a sustainable, resilient, and just food system. The Legal Food Hub also has the dual goal of providing content-specific training to lawyers to enable the legal community to better serve farmers and food businesses. The Legal Food Hub currently operates in Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; the Legal Fellow will develop the Connecticut branch. You can read more about CLF at www.clf.org and the Legal Food Hub at www.legalfoodhub.org.

The ideal candidate will:

- Have a J.D. and be a member of or an applicant to a state bar prepared to apply for admission to the Connecticut bar (candidates may qualify for admission without examination);

- Have experience working with issues relating to agriculture, aquaculture, and other elements of the food system;
- Have experience with transactional law issues;
- Have interest in policy advocacy;
- Have experience working in coalitions with both public and private sector actors;
- Have strong interpersonal skills, including the proven ability to work with people from different backgrounds and communities;
- Have excellent organizational skills;
- Have exemplary oral and written communication skills;
- Be able to manage multiple projects at once and report to multiple supervisors;
- Be a mature self-starter, able to work both independently and as a productive team member;
- Be a persuasive, credible, well-prepared advocate; and
- Have the capacity to develop expertise in relevant non-legal technical or policy areas.

Expected responsibilities include the following:

- Conduct outreach to a diverse set of Connecticut food-system stakeholders to identify common legal issues;
- Build alliances and coalitions among community groups, public officials, business interests, and advocacy organizations;
- Develop and oversee a direct legal assistance *pro bono* network serving farmers, aquaculturists, food businesses, and food organizations (the Legal Food Hub);
- Develop trainings to advise food-system stakeholders, *pro bono* attorneys, community groups, and other advocacy groups on legal and policy matters;
- Write public educational materials, articles, and opinion pieces;
- Educate and advocate before local, state, and federal legislatures and administrations;
- Engage in public outreach and speaking on advocacy initiatives;
- Work effectively with administrative support staff;
- Work with other EPC, CED, and CLF attorneys and communications and policy specialists;
- Work with the media to amplify and disseminate work;
- Work with and supervise clinical students; and
- Assist in preparing funder reports and related materials as needed.

Salary and Benefits

Yale Law School offers a competitive salary and extensive benefits plan, and an open, inclusive, and accepting work environment where differences are highly respected.

To Apply

Send a cover letter and resume to EPC director Josh Galperin at Joshua.Galperin@yale.edu.

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