
ILF-West Bank

THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FOUNDATION

المؤسسة القانونية الدولية - الضفة الغربية

Volunteer Clinical Teaching Opportunity – The West Bank

2 positions available:

- March 2014 – June 2014
- September 2014 – December 2014

The International Legal Foundation (ILF) seeks lawyers experienced in teaching or supervising law students/ running a clinical defense clinic to help build the first criminal defense clinic program in the West Bank. Lawyers will volunteer in the ILF's public defender offices in the West Bank for three-to-four months and are paid a stipend to cover their living expenses but receive no salary.

The ILF, www.theilf.org, is a not-for-profit organization created for the purpose of establishing public defender systems in post-conflict and transitional countries. The ILF operates on the belief that quality defense representation is crucial to a functioning criminal justice system. Without defense lawyers to ensure that judges, prosecutors and police officers follow the law, reform and reconstruction of the justice system is impossible. By fighting against arbitrary detention, public defenders are often the first line of protection against human rights violations. For the past ten years, the ILF has focused on providing criminal defense services to the poor, first in Afghanistan and then in Nepal and the West Bank.

The West Bank is currently undergoing a period of transition, presenting the region with a tremendous opportunity to strengthen the rule of law and the rights of the criminally accused.

The ILF seeks volunteer lawyers, named Natalie Rea International Fellows in honor of the ILF's founder, with experience supervising clinical students/ teaching a criminal defense clinic to help establish the first criminal defense clinic in the West Bank. International Fellows will supervise clinical students and work closely with local universities and criminal defense lawyers in the ILF's public defender office. Fellows will oversee the development of clinic curriculums and student externships at the ILF-West Bank offices.

Fellows are based in the West Bank offices in Ramallah, Jenin or Hebron, where the ILF has offices and residences. Travel, lodging, traveler's insurance and a small living stipend are paid by the ILF; however, the organization cannot be responsible for any other expenses incurred during the assignment (e.g. health insurance). The West Bank is a transitional territory, and before applying for this fellowship, applicants should be aware of the potential risks involved in living there.

Qualifications:

All applicants must have at least 5 years of experience supervising law students/ teaching a criminal defense clinic. Applicants should be sensitive to cultural differences and must be willing to work on Sundays.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to fellows@theilf.org with the subject line "Clinical Fellow- West Bank". Please describe your experience, including any experience traveling or working abroad, and your preferred dates of travel.