



# DISABILITY RIGHTS LOUISIANA

Protect. Advocate. Empower.

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<b>Position Title:</b>	Managing Attorney
<b>Department:</b>	Legal Services
<b>Reports To:</b>	Assistant Director of Legal Services
<b>FLSA Status:</b>	Exempt

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## Overview and Responsibilities

We are seeking an experienced attorney to assist in the management of legal staff and to develop and work on legal strategies to protect and expand the rights of people with disabilities across the state via litigation, individual representation, and investigations.

The Managing Attorney will work under the supervision of and in partnership with the Assistant Director of Legal Services to develop and implement DRLA's legal strategies and priorities. The Managing Attorney ensures the excellence of DRLA's legal work and provides leadership and mentoring on all advocacy efforts, including litigation in Federal and State court; technical assistance to and collaboration with other legal services organizations and community based organizations; administrative hearings; and trainings. The Managing Attorney also partners with other management staff to ensure that DRLA provides strategic, holistic, and coordinated advocacy services.

## Essential Functions

- Provide leadership in developing and executing DRLA's individual and systemic litigation:
  - Assist in the identification of litigation opportunities across the state.
  - Promote and assist in ongoing development of litigation on disability rights issues.
  - Actively participate and play a leadership role in DRLA's litigation activities, including investigation, research, discovery, motion practice, trial work, and appellate practice.
  - Review pleadings, briefs, presentations and other attorney work product.
- Maintain an active caseload of representation on behalf of people with disabilities on disability-related civil rights issues in state and federal court.
- Assist in the development of collaborative relationships with Legal Services, public interest organizations, and private firms in Louisiana and across the country on litigation and other systems change efforts.

- Work with the management team in developing and implementing DRLA's priorities, including the development of litigation strategies, budgets and resource development.

### **Leadership Role:**

- Supervise and direct the work of staff attorneys.
- Work closely and collaboratively with other attorneys in the program, to further the litigation goals of DRLA.
- Assist in the development of high quality representation by attorneys by participating in case reviews, advocacy skills training, and other quality assurance mechanisms.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of organization policies and procedures related to litigation, representation and related matters.
- Provide assistance to DRLA's policy, outreach, and fiscal management staff on systems change efforts.
- Stay current with relevant changes in state and federal law.
- Maintain continuing legal education requirements required by the Louisiana Bar, and attend trainings to maintain and improve or refine advocacy skills and substantive knowledge.

### **Requirements**

- Juris Doctor from an accredited law school; licensed to practice law in Louisiana (at the time of hire or as soon as possible after hiring by taking the bar exam).
- A minimum of 7 years practicing law with at least 5 years of litigation experience, including experience in complex civil litigation.
- Exceptional skills in drafting complex briefs, pleadings and motions, conducting depositions, and trial work.
- Strong analytical and strategic skills and experience developing litigation strategies to advance the law and address systemic problems.
- Commitment to enforcing and expanding the rights of people with disabilities across Louisiana through individual and systemic litigation.

### **Compensation**

Salary range for position: \$60,000 - \$90,000 annually.

Disability Rights Louisiana offers a competitive benefits package that includes health insurance (with employer contribution for employee's coverage), dental insurance, vision insurance, long term disability insurance, flexible spending account, 401(k) retirement savings plan, and generous vacation and sick leave.

### **How to Apply**

Please submit cover letter, resume and a writing sample [hr@disabilityrightsla.org](mailto:hr@disabilityrightsla.org),  
Subject: Managing Attorney.

*The above job description is meant to describe the general nature and level of work being performed; it is not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required for this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related instructions and to perform other job-related duties requested by their supervisor in compliance with Federal and State Laws. All job requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. Some requirements may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health and safety of themselves or other employees. Requirements are representative of minimum levels of knowledge, skills and/or abilities. To perform this job successfully, the employee must possess the abilities or aptitudes to perform each duty proficiently. Continue employment remains on an "at-will" basis.*

## **Equal Opportunity**

Disability Rights Louisiana values diversity among our employees and is an equal opportunity employer. Disability Rights Louisiana hires without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, age (over 40), disability (mental and physical), sex, gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, military and veteran status, or any other protected characteristic.

We strongly encourage individuals from underrepresented groups to apply.

Disability Rights Louisiana endorses and supports the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities who are applicants or employees needing accommodations.