

# Mercy Law Resource Centre

25 Cork St, Dublin 8

Phone: 01 4537459

Fax: 01 4537455

Email: [info@mercylaw.ie](mailto:info@mercylaw.ie)



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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Locum Solicitor</b>
<b>Employer:</b>	<b>Mercy Law Resource Centre Limited (MLRC)</b>
<b>Reports to:</b>	<b>Managing Solicitor</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>Commensurate with experience</b>
<b>Working Hours:</b>	<b>Full-time: 9.30am to 5.30p.m. Monday to Friday</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	<b>This is a fixed-purpose contract of six months to cover a period of maternity leave</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>MLRC offices, Dublin, though travel may be required.</b>

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## **Background information**

Mercy Law Resource Centre (MLRC) is an independent law centre, company limited by guarantee and registered charity. MLRC uses the law to help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It does this through:

- Free legal advice in clinics held in hostels and drop-in centres for those who are homeless or facing homelessness;
- Free legal representation;
- Policy work where we advocate in relation to laws, policies and attitudes that are particularly harsh for our clients;
- Befriending service. Where our clients who are without supports, are, if they want to, matched with a volunteer befriender. The volunteer befriender is a steady support for the client as they navigate their way through the difficult time of asserting their legal entitlements; and
- Legal support and training for organisations working in the field of homelessness, including Crosscare, Focus Ireland and Dublin Simon.

For more details on MLRC's work, please see our website, [www.mercylaw.ie](http://www.mercylaw.ie)

## **Role of locum solicitor with MLRC**

The specific responsibilities of the locum solicitor are:

- Management of a caseload, with particular emphasis on housing law;
- Instructing and working with counsel and running litigation predominantly in the High Court in relation to housing and homelessness matters;
- Provision of legal advice and assistance to individuals through legal advice clinics in hostels and other centres for people who are homeless;
- Provision of legal information and advice to organisations dealing with homelessness, in respect of individual client queries;
- Provision of training and setting up focus groups with organisations dealing with homelessness;
- Assisting in relation to policy work as required from time to time;
- Liaising with external organisations regarding the promotion and development of the law centre and the achievement of its goals and objectives;

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- Working as part of a team towards the strategic goals of the Centre and to ensure that high standards are developed and maintained in office procedures and case management and, in particular, to ensure that our services are delivered in a way that respects the special needs of our clients; and
- Such other tasks as may be necessary to assist in the carrying out of the work of MLRC.

## Requirements

### Essential Requirements

- Appropriate degree.
- A professional qualification as a solicitor.
- Knowledge of public interest law and demonstrated interest in the principle of access to justice.
- Experience in litigation at all levels.
- Experience in legal practice.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and a capacity to be compassionate and respectful in one's approach to clients.
- A professional attitude with an ability to work as part of a team, under pressure and to act on one's own initiative.
- Enthusiasm and commitment.
- IT skills.

### Desirable Requirements

- Experience of litigation at Superior Court level would be an advantage.
- Experience of judicial review/human rights law would be an advantage.
- Masters in human rights law/public interest law.
- Experience in human rights/social justice work and/or in the community and voluntary sector.

### Terms and Conditions

The Locum Solicitor position will be offered as a fixed purpose contract of six months to cover a period of maternity leave with an immediate start. The salary offered with this contract position is commensurate with experience. This is a full-time position based at Mercy Law Resource Centre, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8.

### Application

Please email completed application form, CV and cover letter to the MLRC Administrator Danielle Curtis: [danielle@mercylaw.ie](mailto:danielle@mercylaw.ie). Alternatively, please send by post to Managing Solicitor, Mercy Law Resource Centre, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8. Incomplete applications will automatically be disqualified. **Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 23 June.** Interviews will be held during the week ending 30 June 2017.

MLRC is an equal opportunities employer.