

Legal Intern



Mission and Vision

CAASE envisions a community free from all forms of sexual exploitation, including sexual assault and the commercial sex trade. CAASE addresses the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or support sexual exploitation. Our work includes prevention, policy reform, community engagement, and legal services.

Values

Social and institutional systems do not adequately serve survivors of sexual violation. Sexual violation disproportionately harms people from marginalized communities, including girls and women, people of color, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, people living in poverty, and immigrants and people without documentation. To best support survivors, CAASE confronts the inequities that fuel or intersect with sexual harm. Our dedication to this work is reflected in our values:

Dignity | We respect the inherent humanity of all people and strive to expand opportunities for personal autonomy.

Accountability | We answer to survivors and collaborate with allies as we seek to hold those responsible for harm accountable.

Progress | We create individual, institutional and cultural change by using innovative approaches to ending sexual harm.

Equity | We commit to building a world where every person, with consideration for their intersecting identities and unique circumstances, has the same access to opportunity and power.

About The Opportunity

CAASE's direct legal services include victims' rights advocacy within the context of the criminal justice system, civil legal representation using a variety of civil laws related to sexual assault and exploitation, and protection of other legal rights for survivors in the context of their schooling, workplace, and housing. CAASE legal interns may work on cases involving enforcing the rights of survivors of sexual harm within the criminal justice system, Title IX, protective orders, nonconsensual dissemination of intimate images, and employment law.

Responsibilities

Specific tasks will include:

- Conducting legal research and preparing memoranda and other documents on legal issues related to the rights described above.
- Analyzing cases, identifying legal issues as they arise, and developing a working knowledge of relevant laws for survivors of sexual harm.
- Performing other job-related duties as assigned by immediate supervisor.
- Interns may have the opportunity to directly assist clients who are survivors of sexual harm, including by appearing at court dates, communicating with clients, and attending meetings with detectives and prosecutors.

Status: Full time, temporary, unpaid.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Applicant should be a law student with strong research and writing skills and a demonstrated interest in the area of gender equality, gender-based violence, and/or survivors' rights.
- Applicant should also demonstrate:
 - Strong written and verbal communication skills
 - Attention to detail and organization
 - Ability to collaborate with others and work independently
 - Ability to maintain confidentiality of CAASE information
 - Ability to initiate and follow through with projects under a tight deadline structure
 - Excellent applied research and analytical skills, including synthesis of information and identification of themes
- Candidate must be committed to feminist principles, ending the perpetration of sexual exploitation in Chicago and Illinois, and to the continuing work of opposing and seeking to end all forms of inequality, including related to race, sexual orientation, and gender.

To apply: Please submit a resume, substantive cover letter, and writing sample to czuba@caase.org.

CAASE does not discriminate against job applicants or employees on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, sex (including sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, gender stereotyping, pregnancy and childbirth status) religion, national origin, age (40 and over disability, neurotype, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. CAASE supports a person's full access to reproductive health information and services. We are committed to being responsive to any reports of unethical or unlawful conduct, including harassment and discrimination, when they are brought to our attention directly.