



Center for Public  
Representation

**CENTER FOR PUBLIC REPRESENTATION  
MARY CRAPO  
LITIGATING ATTORNEY FELLOWSHIP**

The Center for Public Representation (CPR) is a national legal advocacy center that has been advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities who live in the community and in institutional settings, for over forty years. Its staff of eleven attorneys, a director of its Supported Decision-Making project, and two paralegals work in its Northampton, Newton and D.C. offices. CPR recently established a national policy program that primarily is located in its D.C. office. Through its systemic advocacy over the past four decades, CPR has been a major force in promoting community integration, self-determination and improvements in services for people with disabilities throughout the country.

CPR's system reform agenda includes numerous litigation and policy initiatives implemented across the country that are designed to promote community integration, equal access, improved services, and new standards of care for persons with disabilities. The agenda, like CPR's mission, focuses on supporting institutionalized and other persons with disabilities to return to, or remain in, their homes and communities and to be full and equal participants in all community activities. This agenda, which is periodically revised and updated, guides the CPR's legal reform activities. A summary of the CPR's systemic litigation agenda can be found at <http://www.centerforpublicrep.org/litigation-and-major-cases/litigation>.

CPR is a national support center, providing training and technical assistance to protection and advocacy (P&A) programs in each of the fifty states and territories under a contract with National Disability Rights Network (NDRN). It provides support on all institutional and community issues, systemic litigation, and P&A access and authority.

With funding from the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation (MLAC), CPR also is a statewide backup center and provides technical assistance and support to public and private attorneys who represent people with disabilities in the Commonwealth. It co-counsels system reform cases with legal services and other public interest organizations to enforce the rights of persons with disabilities in Massachusetts.

CPR undertakes new systemic initiatives in collaboration with other public interest law firms, P&A agencies, legal services programs, and consumer advocacy organizations. In addition, CPR has created special partnerships with several large private firms that frequently co-counsel major class action cases.

CPR has a core of highly experienced senior attorneys who work, almost exclusively, on implementing this systemic agenda, creating new system reform initiatives, litigating complex disability rights cases, and designing new systems of care for persons with disabilities in the community. CPR is committed to developing a new generation of senior attorneys who can lead

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this agenda for at least the next decade. It seeks to recruit, train, mentor, and support several attorneys of various levels of experience to become the new leaders of CPR.

### **The Position**

CPR seeks an attorney who will receive a two year fellowship to work on a range of system reform cases and policy initiatives designed to expand community living opportunities, improve service systems and supports, promote equal access, and redefine standards of care for persons with disabilities. The attorney will have the opportunity to be part of a team responsible for litigating complex civil rights cases, including both injunctive and damage actions.

The attorney may have 0-5 years experience. The attorney should have a demonstrated commitment to advancing the rights of persons with disabilities and have some familiarity with disability services and systems. The attorney will be part of CPR's highly-experienced litigation team and will be offered ongoing mentoring by its directors.

### **The Salary and Benefits**

Excellent salary, DOE. CPR offers a unique benefit package, and salaries commensurate with small private firms.

We value diversity, and we strongly encourage and welcome people of color, people with disabilities, members of the LBGQT community and people with diverse life experiences and backgrounds to apply.

The position will most likely be located in the CPR's Northampton office. Please send cover letter and resume to Cathy Costanzo, Center for Public Representation, 22 Green Street, Northampton, MA 01060, or by e-mail to [info@cpr-ma.org](mailto:info@cpr-ma.org), by March 31, 2019.