

# THE GREENLINING INSTITUTE

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## THE GREENLINING LEGAL ACADEMY: INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC INTEREST LAW AND CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCACY

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### ABOUT GREENLINING

The Greenlining Institute is a multi-ethnic public policy, research, and advocacy center dedicated to serving the needs of California's low-income communities of color. The Institute emerged from the Greenlining Coalition, perhaps the oldest coalition of African American, Asian American/Pacific Islander, and Latino community leaders organized around a common purpose. With the formal founding of the Institute in 1993, Greenlining set out to create an antidote to redlining, the illegal yet common practice of denying, limiting, or overcharging for financial services and products to low-income and minority communities.

Since 1993, the Greenlining Institute has blossomed into a major policy player throughout California and the nation. In partnership with a dynamic multi-ethnic coalition of diverse organizations, the Institute has successfully connected private enterprise and community organizations in innovative partnerships, garnering over \$2.4 trillion dollars in investments into traditionally underserved areas.

Greenlining's mission is to empower communities of color and low-income communities through multi-ethnic economic and leadership development, civil rights and anti-redlining activities. Greenlining operates programs to improve health, housing, higher education, corporate accountability, and the democratic process for California's low-income and minority communities.

Greenlining's legal advocacy is policy-focused and strives to protect and promote the interests of California's vulnerable communities. Through its policy and legal advocacy Greenlining creates a dynamic that brings together diverse voices within California to overcome fragmentation of local advocacy, policy, and community organizing efforts. It is this recognition that pushes Greenlining to aim for nothing less than a paradigm shift across California's movements for social justice.

### THE GREENLINING LEGAL ACADEMY

In pursuit of innovative legal strategies and advocacy, the Greenlining Legal Academy seeks to train law students to be skilled, ethical and creative agents for social change. In addition to learning practical legal skills such as interviewing, counseling, negotiating, writing and oral advocacy, students are urged to scrutinize the quality of justice for communities of color and low-income communities. The goal of the Greenlining Legal Academy is to provide students with the skills to protect and promote the interests of California's most vulnerable populations: low-income, limited English-speaking and recent immigrants.

The training of students in the Greenlining Academy is among the organization's highest objectives. Students in the Academy are integrated immediately as part of the Institute staff and participate actively in the development, planning and implementation of the Institute's projects.

### THE GREENLINING LEGAL FELLOWSHIP

The Greenlining Legal Fellowship is a year-long training program for young leaders who have completed law school and attained their Juris Doctor by the start of the program. Legal Fellows will be assigned to one or more areas of Greenlining's consumer protection advocacy and will develop expertise in those areas under the direction of Greenlining's Managing Attorney and the Academy Director.

Legal Fellows will work closely with Greenlining's Managing Attorney by intervening and initiating legal actions before administrative bodies, such as the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Department of Insurance, and the Federal Reserve. Legal Fellows will work across different areas, such as telecommunications, energy, emerging technologies, banking and insurance. Recent Greenlining cases include the successful blocking of Liberty Mutual's attempted rate increase, negotiation of diversity guarantees during the SBC/AT&T and Verizon/MCI mergers, public transparency reform of the executive compensation packages of California's utilities, efforts to bridge the digital divide, and drawing attention to the declining diversity in the University of California system.

Fellows will assist the Managing Attorney in communicating with Greenlining coalition members and organizing community efforts to support regulatory, legal and legislative programs. Fellows will participate in meetings with regulators, legislators, commissioners, top government officials, corporate CEOs, and political leaders on issues critical to Greenlining constituencies. From these experiences Fellows will learn how to make strategic and tactical decisions to impact and implement public policy and gain experience working within political processes. Fellows will learn how to make creative use of the legal system to affect positive change for low-income and minority communities.



## QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates for the Legal Fellowship must be able to demonstrate the following:

- ◆ JD candidates who expect to graduate and take the California Bar exam in 2010 OR recent law school graduates who are members of the California Bar Association.
- ◆ Commitment to public interest lawyering and social justice.
- ◆ Ability to multi-task and quickly adapt to changing objectives.
- ◆ Ability to thrive and contribute to a team-oriented working environment.
- ◆ Ability to work well with diverse groups.
- ◆ Strong research, writing and communications skills.
- ◆ Strong personal initiative and motivation

## APPLYING FOR THE GREENLINING LEGAL FELLOWSHIP

A completed application consists of:

- ◆ cover letter,
- ◆ resume, and
- ◆ 3 references

Application materials for the Legal Fellowship program must be postmarked by **January 15, 2010**. Applications that are not postmarked by the appropriate application deadline will not be considered.

## COMPENSATION

\$41,800 salary + health and dental benefits + up to \$2,000 reimbursement for Bar examination fees after completion of fellowship

## MORE INFORMATION

Contact Danielle Trimiew at (510) 926-4007 or email [daniellet@greenlining.org](mailto:daniellet@greenlining.org) for more information.