

**Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation
Senior Staff Attorney**



The Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) seeks applicants for a full-time Senior Staff Attorney. 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.

CAASE is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. Applicants are encouraged to request any reasonable accommodation needed due to a disability.

Job Description:

CAASE staff attorneys utilize legal representation of survivors of sexual assault and prostitution to further the organization's mission to end sexual exploitation. CAASE's direct legal services include advocacy within the context of the criminal justice system, civil legal representation using a variety of civil laws specific to Illinois and related to sexual assault and prostitution, and protection of the panoply of other legal rights that victims have in the context of their schooling, their workplace, and their housing. CAASE does not engage in family law or criminal defense work.

The Senior Staff Attorney will be involved in all aspects of CAASE's substantive legal work – from development of legal strategies to implementation. They will handle a variety of complex cases within the legal department, focusing on victims' rights in criminal cases, manage CAASE's relationships with community partners and coalitions as assigned, and take on additional supervisory duties in support of the Legal Director, including supervising and managing CAASE's victims' rights work in the criminal justice process.

Specific Responsibilities:

- *Direct Legal Services:* The Senior Staff Attorney will carry an active caseload and is expected to work independently according to the organization's policies and procedures. Specific tasks will include:
 - Meet with, assess comprehensive legal needs of, and provide legal advice and representation to victims of sexual assault and exploitation through prostitution.
 - Provide advocacy and representation to victims seeking to have the criminal justice system investigate and prosecute perpetrators of sexual assault and exploitation.
 - Utilize the Illinois Crime Victim Bill of Rights to represent survivors of sexual assault as a victims' attorney within the criminal court.
 - Address the civil legal needs of victims related to privacy, immigration, physical safety, education, employment, housing, and financial compensation matters.
 - Maintain organized and detailed case files and database.

- *Supervisory and Management Duties:*
 - Oversee, implement, evaluate, and update all aspects of CAASE's policy and procedures in representing survivors under the Illinois Crime Victim Bill of Rights in the criminal justice

- process, including working with the Legal Director and the CAASE Policy Department on issues related to city and state criminal justice policy.
- Provide advice, consultation and mentoring to junior attorneys and pro bono attorneys concerning substantive and procedural areas of law relating to crime victims' rights and the criminal justice process, including assisting them in developing creative and innovative legal strategies.
 - Serve in a co-counsel role for pro bono and junior attorneys as needed.
 - Supervise interns and fellows as needed.
- *Engagement with Community Partners:*
 - Collaborate with Chicago-based rape crisis centers and victim advocates in providing comprehensive services to victims; manage partnership with specific rape crisis centers as assigned.
 - Develop and present educational programming on CAASE's legal services program and the legal rights of survivors for Chicago-area attorneys, community leaders and rape crisis center advocates.
 - Represent CAASE and lead CAASE's involvement in community-based coalitions, task forces and campaigns as assigned by the Legal Director.
 - Seek out, foster, and engage in opportunities to represent CAASE through public speaking and presentations, both locally and nationally.

Status: Full time, exempt.

Reports to: Legal Director

Requirements: Applicants must have a Juris Doctorate, admission to the Illinois Bar in good standing, and a minimum of five years of direct legal experience. Experience working as an attorney within the criminal justice system and/or as a victims' rights attorney highly preferred.

The ideal applicant will also have:

- Demonstrated, exemplary research, writing, and litigation skills.
- Ability to work independently and develop creative and innovative strategies to complex legal questions.
- Prior supervisory experience.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and comfort working with survivors, victim's advocates, prosecutors, law enforcement, medical practitioners, and other attorneys.
- Experience building and participating in broad-based coalitions with diverse array of community stakeholders.
- Comfort and experience with public speaking, particularly in area of legal education.
- Demonstrated commitment to working against all forms of violence against girls and women and on behalf of all victims of sexual assault and exploitation, regardless of sex, gender identity, race, ethnicity or economic circumstances. Demonstrated commitment to feminist principles of identifying and opposing all forms and manifestations of inequality.
- Commitment to developing innovative legal and policy responses to sexual assault through representation of and advocacy for survivors of sexual assault and prostitution within the criminal justice system..

Application procedure: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. To apply, send a substantive cover letter, resume, and list of references to Christine Evans, Legal Director, via email at cme@caase.org or by mail at 307 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1818, Chicago, IL 60601. No phone calls please.