Racial, Social and Economic Justice
Externship Program

The Racial, Social and Economic Justice Program (RSEJ) brings together students, lawyers and a range of organizations and agencies that specifically address issues of racial, social and economic justice within different practice settings and across different issues areas.

Students will extern at the placement, and take a corresponding one credit seminar with fellow students specifically about racial and social justice work.

Spring 2017 Participating Placements:
- Nonprofit organizations: ACLU of Colorado, Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center, Native American Rights Fund, and the Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network.
- Firms focused on anti-discrimination: Killmer Lane and Newman; Lowrey Parady, LLC; Rathod Mohamedbhai LLC; Sweeney & Bechtold LLC; and The Hans Meyer Law Firm.

Overviews of the organizations are listed at the end of this document. In addition, students can learn more about the placements by logging into their accounts in CORE, the externship database.

Spring 2017 Application Process:
- Applications are due to afreeman@law.du.edu by Friday, October 21, 2016. They will then be forwarded to the relevant placements.
- An application should include: resume, cover letter, list of 2 references, and writing sample. You should write 1 general cover letter to the RSEJ program, not individual letters. If possible, please submit all of the required materials in one pdf file.
- In your cover email to Alexi Freeman, please include the names of the 3 placements you are interested in. Please also include whether you are open to being considered for any other placements outside of those top 3 and indicate which.
- Applications will then be sent on to employers and we have asked that decisions be made by employers by November 16, 2016. We imagine that most employers will contact you to set up an interview before then.
- Students must submit the signed Acceptance Form by November 21, 2016 by uploading it to their CORE account (Denver Law externship software). Email externships@law.du.edu if you need help accessing CORE.

Contact Alexi Freeman at afreeman@law.du.edu with any questions.

Prof. Freeman can also put you in touch with students who were involved in the program previously.

Organization Overviews:
- ACLU of Colorado: The ACLU of Colorado, an affiliate of the national ACLU, is Colorado’s guardian of freedom, working to promote and defend civil liberties in Colorado. To achieve this mission, it manages legal, legislative, and public education programs on a broad range of constitutional issues including
discrimination, free speech, religious freedom, reproductive rights, LGBT rights, criminal justice, and privacy. Students will participate in litigation and advocacy.

- **Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center**: CREEC is a membership organization that aims to ensure everyone can fully and independently participate in our nation’s civic life without discrimination based on race, gender, disability, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity. CREEC promotes this goal through education member input, instructional materials, individual advocacy, persuasion, hectoring, humor, collaboration, and animated YouTube videos and enforcement, that is, investigating and filing lawsuits. Students will work on investigating and/or litigating civil rights cases.

- **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**: EEOC is the federal agency charged by Congress with enforcement of four federal statutes prohibiting employment discrimination. Students will engage in litigation practice, including drafting discovery, drafting motions, drafting memoranda regarding development of cases for litigation, assisting in preparation for depositions, hearings and oral argument, and interviewing witnesses and individuals for whom the EEOC is seeking relief, particularly in cases with a large number of class members. *Please note: this placement is also in the Public Sector Diversity Internship program. Students who are admitted via that program will be placed in the RSEJ seminar.*

- **Killmer, Lane and Newman**: Killmer, Lane and Newman is a civil rights/criminal defense law firm. Cases include Title VII and Section 1983 claims as well as death penalty defense at the state and federal level. Students will engage in research and writing, and communicate with witnesses.

- **Lowrey Parady, LLC**: This is a small, woman-owned plaintiff’s-side employment firm specializing in the representation of employees in matters such as discrimination, underpayment of wages, and retaliation. They also handle a variety of civil rights cases. They take pride in representing underrepresented communities and causes.

- **Native American Rights Fund**: NARF provides legal representation and technical assistance to Indian tribes, organizations, and individuals nationwide - a constituency that often lacks access to the justice system. NARF focuses on applying existing laws and treaties to guarantee that national and state governments live up to their legal obligations. Students will engage in litigation related activities, including writing memos, attending meetings, and participating in pleadings, if available (located in Boulder, CO).

- **Rathod|Mohamedbhai LLC**: Rathod|Mohamedbhai LLC is a law firm of experienced trial attorneys representing individuals in Denver and throughout Colorado and Wyoming. Lawyers advocate for the rights of employees in the workplace and protect the civil rights of individuals oppressed by governmental abuses of power. Externs work on all aspects of litigation cases, including drafting representation letters, charges of discrimination, complaints, motions, and more.

- **Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network**: RMIAN is a nonprofit organization that serves low-income men, women, and children in immigration proceedings. RMIAN promotes knowledge of legal rights, provides effective representation to ensure due process, works to improve detention conditions, and promotes a more humane immigration system, including alternatives to detention. *Note: preference for students with the ability to speak Spanish.*

- **Sweeney & Bechtold, LLC**: This is a small firm focusing on the representation of employees in employment disputes. The practice is devoted to employment law, with an emphasis on employment
discrimination issues. The firm represents both private and government sector employees in matters of discrimination, harassment, civil rights, wrongful discharge, contractual disputes, and other federal and state law claims related to all phases of the employment relationship.

- **The Hans Meyer Law Firm**: The office specializes in immigration law, removal defense, criminal defense, and the immigration consequences of contact with the criminal justice system. The firm has earned a reputation for excellence and leadership in the immigration law and criminal defense communities through dedicated and creative litigation, superior technical knowledge, professionalism, and compassion. The firm helps individuals with a wide range of immigration matters, including defense for individuals facing deportation; family-based immigration in the United States or through a consulate abroad; naturalization and citizenship; asylum and other persecution-based protection; U-visas and VAWA; Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and other immigration matters.

- **US Dept. of Education-Office for Civil Rights**: The U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) ensures equal access to education and promotes educational excellence throughout the nation through vigorous enforcement of civil rights laws. OCR enforces civil rights laws that protect people from discrimination in educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, and disability. Students participate in all aspects of complaint investigations.

- **US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development-Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity**: The Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity administers federal laws and establishes national policies that make sure all Americans have equal access to the housing of their choice. Particular activities carried out by the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity include implementing and enforcing the Fair Housing Act and other civil rights laws. Students engage in research, investigation, and site visits, if applicable.