

**Law Student Help Wanted:
Hmong Farmer/Lawyer Liaison**

Date Announced: May 12, 2016

Deadline: Open until filled

Salary: DOE

Organization: Farmers' Legal Action Group (FLAG) is a public interest law center dedicated to providing legal services to family farmers and their communities in order to help keep family farmers on the land. Founded in 1986, FLAG serves financially distressed family farmers and ranchers nationwide, working on legal issues such as contract farming, agricultural credit, disaster assistance, direct marketing, sustainable and organic agriculture, corporate concentration, and race discrimination. By providing a combination of legal education and plain-language publications, legal support to advocates and attorneys serving family farmers, impact litigation on key issues, and legislative and administrative technical assistance services to its client organizations, FLAG plays a key role in preserving the family farm system of agriculture in the United States.

FLAG is a leader among organizations serving Hmong farmers. Many Hmong farmers make important business decisions about signing farmers' market vendor contracts and signing land leases, seeking government or private loans for purchasing, operating or upgrading their farms, and other farm business decisions often involving legal issues. Hmong families in the Ozarks or other southern states may also be involved in production contracts with large poultry companies. FLAG seeks assistance in its efforts to assess the legal needs of family farmers in the Hmong community, build relationships with the Hmong farming community, and to determine the most effective means of providing legal educational materials and legal assistance to members of the Hmong community.

Position: Hmong Farmer/Lawyer Liaison

Term: Approximately six months, approximately 10-15 hours per week.
Possibility of extension after the initial term.

Qualifications: Must be fluent in Hmong and English languages. Ability to translate written materials into Hmong a plus. Must be able to understand legal concepts. Strong connections to or interest in Hmong farming communities in Minnesota preferred.

Responsibilities: The individual in this position will receive and initiate contacts with Hmong farmers and others in the Hmong farming community. As FLAG's Hmong Farmer Liaison, this person will communicate with Hmong farmers seeking legal advice and then communicate with FLAG attorneys regarding the legal needs of Hmong clients and the Hmong community. This person may also perform related law clerk duties, assist in determining format of legal educational materials, develop distribution strategies for legal educational materials, and assist FLAG's attorneys in further developing their own cultural understanding of the Hmong community.

EOE: FLAG is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women and people of color.

Applications: E-mail (1) a cover letter/letter of interest explaining qualifications for and interest in position; and (2) a résumé to:

Farmers' Legal Action Group
fadmin@flaginc.org