Title: International Human Rights Program Intern

Start Date: June 2015

## **Background:**

The Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) seeks a third or fourth year undergraduate student, recent graduate, or graduate student with a strong commitment to social justice to help with several legal and advocacy-related projects as part of a summer-long unpaid internship opportunity. CCR is a national not-for-profit legal, educational, and advocacy organization dedicated to advancing and protecting the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Founded in 1966 by attorneys who represented civil rights movements in the South, CCR is committed to the creative use of law as a positive force for social change.

The International Human Rights (IHR) docket focuses on holding government officials and corporations accountable for serious violations of international law, primarily under the Alien Tort Statute, the Torture Victim Protection Act, the U.S. Constitution, and the principle of universal jurisdiction. It works primarily in U.S. courts, but also is involved in litigation in foreign and international courts, and advocacy using regional or international human rights mechanisms. Some of our cases include: Challenge to abuse by private military contractors at Abu Ghraib; ATS case in support of LGBTI Ugandan organizers; challenges to repression of people for speech criticizing Israeli government policy against Palestine; advocacy in support of accountability and reparations for the Iraq War; FOIA litigation for information about the U.S. role in the attack on the Gaza Freedom Flotilla and the coup in Honduras; and human rights advocacy to challenge Catholic Church cover-up of sexual violence by priests.

## **Position Description:**

The intern will work 10-25 hours per week between June and August 2015, assisting legal workers and attorneys in CCR's IHR docket on several on-going projects and case development. The intern will have the opportunity to work on a range of issues and cases. Responsibilities include: assisting in factual research, review, and writing; reviewing and indexing documents, especially those released by government agencies in FOIA requests and litigation; performing literature and press reviews, identifying vendors and experts, and gathering information as part of outreach strategy; and general administrative tasks.

## **Qualifications:**

Spanish, Arabic, or other language skills, graphic design skills, and experience in a legal environment are a plus. Previous experience working in a non-profit, social justice organization is preferred, as well as an interest in international human rights. The ideal candidate is organized and detail-oriented, is able to manage multiple tasks and priorities efficiently, works well in a team, and is proficient in Microsoft Office suite. Candidates should also demonstrate experience in and/or commitment to social justice, organizing and/or social movements.

## **Application Instructions:**

Qualified candidates should prepare a resume, cover letter, writing sample and list of 3 references as one PDF document prior to applying via the web form at <a href="http://www.ccrjustice.org/internship-applications-program">http://www.ccrjustice.org/internship-applications-program</a>. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and strong consideration will be given to early applicants. CCR is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and actively recruits people of color, women, persons with disabilities, and persons with diverse gender and sexual identities. Please note that this internship is not for law students or law school graduates. No phone calls please.