



## LITIGATION ATTORNEY VACANCY

Reports to: Head of the PLC Law Clinic

Type: 12 months fixed term contract

People's Legal Centre (PLC) was founded in 2022 to increase access to justice. Their main programmes include a paralegal training course for community leaders and activists from around Cape Town, as well as an advice office based at Philippi Village. Their newest branch, the PLC Law Clinic, based in Mowbray, was registered in January 2025. The clinic focuses primarily on administrative justice and participatory governance towards the realisation of constitutional rights.

The PLC Law Clinic is looking for a **Litigation Attorney** to help grow the litigation practice. If you have a keen eye for spotting the points of systemic failure and potential intervention across a wide range of substantive areas of law, this role might be right for you.

### **What You'll Be Doing**

Initially, you will be required to assist the head of the law clinic with their current caseload, which includes matters in local and participatory governance, transport planning, and housing. In due course, you will be expected to start assisting in identifying matters for litigation, in collaboration with the other PLC branches, and conducting the full complement of tasks associated with litigation, including consulting, research, drafting, filing, appearances in the Magistrates' and High Courts (where applicable), and general office administration.

## What We're Looking For

- A strong sense of social justice – experience within civil society is beneficial, but not a strict requirement.
- Two to four years post-admission litigation experience – this number of years is flexible, depending on the type of experience and other factors.
- Experience or keen interest in administrative and / or constitutional litigation.
- Excellent drafting skills – this is non-negotiable.
- Court experience – experience in appearing and arguing matters in court is preferable. Right of appearance in the High Court and a willingness to work and appear independently of counsel in appropriate cases would be added benefits.
- The ability to connect specific facts and struggles of poor and working class communities with the relevant points of failure in state conduct, whether statute, policy, or administration, and translating this into actionable avenues for systematic legal recourse.
- The ability to translate these legal processes back to communities, to ensure that affected litigants and broader movements play an active role in shaping and driving litigation.
- The ability to explain complex legal topics in a simple way, ideally in more than one of the languages prevalent in the Western Cape.
- Independence, vision and a hands-on approach — both the clinic and this role are new, so you will need to be comfortable with defining your own role and the processes that come with it.
- Innovation and creativity – both in litigation itself and in the intersection between litigation and popular education.

## How to apply

Send your CV with contact details of two work-related referees to **MaraisButton & Associates**. Your application must include a motivation letter telling us why you would like to work for the People's Legal Centre and why you are suitable for this role.

Email: [annelie@maraisbutton.co.za](mailto:annelie@maraisbutton.co.za)

Closing date: 14 July

Contact will only be made with shortlisted candidates.