

Date Posted: 05/29/12

**University of Houston
Graduate College of Social Work
JOB OPPORTUNITY POSTING**

Job Title: Executive Director

Employer/Agency: American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi - The ACLU-MS is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan organization which uses legal, legislative and public education approaches to protect and promote a broad range of constitutional issues including individual rights and freedoms, free speech, racial justice, privacy, religious liberty, reproductive rights, LGBT rights, and more. The ACLU-MS is an affiliate of the national ACLU, the leading defender of civil liberties guaranteed by our nation's Bill of Rights.

The ACLU-MS plays an important role in the national discussion on civil liberties and is one of the state's premier public advocacy organizations. The State of Mississippi and the ACLU-MS are regularly in the national spotlight due to the state's history as a battle ground for civil rights and continuing challenges as a predominately conservative state to offer protection and freedom to progressive communities. Based in Jackson, the ACLU-MS has not only the opportunity, but also the responsibility, to further education about civil liberties and to advocate for individual and community rights in Mississippi. The affiliate maintains an operating budget of approximately \$400,000, is led by a Board of Directors and a staff of eight, and is additionally supported by the ACLU's national Strategic Affiliate Initiative (SAI) which deploys significant resources to build the infrastructure and program of the ACLU.

Job Description: The **American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi (ACLU-MS)** seeks a dynamic and seasoned chief executive to lead a strategic and effective civil liberties agenda throughout Mississippi.

The Executive Director will serve as the chief executive officer of the ACLU-MS affiliate, with primary responsibility for strategically managing the organization's day-to-day activities and operations, leading the organization's fundraising efforts, directing the work and development of a professional staff, and serving as the primary spokesperson. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director will ensure that the organization is fiscally sound and that its internal and external communications, fund development, and programs are meeting the current and emergent needs and interests of its constituents. S/he will establish a clear vision for the continued growth and expansion of the ACLU, provide direction to guide programs that align with the organization's vision, and initiate and strengthen relationships and collaborations with organizations

and leaders who are aligned with the ACLU's mission and purpose.

More details at: <http://www.nonprofitprofessionals.com/searches/aclu-ms.htm>.

Qualifications:

Candidates for the position of Executive Director should be strategic and determined with a profound commitment to social justice and a passion for protecting civil liberties. They should embody and promote a culture of integrity and be adept at balancing internal management needs with external impact and visibility. The ideal candidate will be an outstanding communicator who is able to convey effectively the mission and activities of the ACLU to a variety of constituencies, as well as to the broader public.

The ideal candidate will have ten years of professional experience including a track record of successfully leading an organization; proven managerial, fund development and financial management experience in the private, not-for-profit, and/or public sectors; an exceptional talent for creative strategic thinking; an ability to inspire and mobilize individuals around strategic initiatives; an entrepreneurial spirit; the credibility and experience to connect the ACLU to resources and opportunities outside the organization; a successful track record of raising money from a variety of sources; and a history of communicating effectively in writing and verbally, including excellent public speaking skills for both formal and extemporaneous presentations. A Bachelor's degree is a minimum requirement and an advanced degree in law or another related field is preferred.

Salary/Hours:

DOE

Employer/Agency:

ACLU of Mississippi

Address:

P.O. Box 2242

City, State, Zip:

Jackson, MS 39225

Application

Method:

To learn more about the work of the ACLU and the civil liberties principles it upholds, please visit www.aclu-ms.org and www.aclu.org.

Due to the pace of this search, candidates are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Applications including a cover letter describing your interest and qualifications, your resume (in Word format), salary history and where you learned of the position should be sent to: aclu-ms@nonprofitprofessionals.com. In order to expedite the internal sorting and reviewing process, please type your name (Last, First) as the only contents in the subject line of your e-mail.

Opening Date:

Immediate

If your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@sw.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity.

Thank you