



GRATA FUND

JOB AD

19 June 2018

Grata Fund – Hiring – Head of Strategic Litigation Development

Grata Fund is seeking a full-time Head of Strategic Litigation Development.

This new role is the first of its kind in Australia and will arguably be one of the most exciting public interest legal roles in the country.

The Head of Strategic Litigation will work in collaboration with the Executive Director to implement Grata Fund's vision and strategy for a robust public interest litigation culture in Australia by:

- Working with the legal sector, academia and campaigners to incubate new strategic litigation in Australia on human rights, democracy and climate change.
- Removing cost barriers to litigation via case financing.
- Building broad campaign alliances around supported litigation to ensure lasting impact beyond the courtroom.

The Head of Strategic Litigation will be responsible for developing new case ideas, building pro bono alliances to litigate those cases, assessing case proposals from the legal sector and managing funding contracts with plaintiffs and legal partners.

The ideal candidate will be an exceptionally talented strategist, with an eye for identifying the impact potential for litigation and a deep personal belief in social justice and the rule of law. She or he will have a proven ability to foster coordination and cooperation among diverse and sometimes competing groups. She or he will be committed to getting results in a fast-paced environment and will be able to handle a significant workload.

This position is an opportunity to help foster litigation as a tool for change when governments are unwilling or unable to act to preserve and promote human rights and democracy.



About Grata Fund

Grata Fund is an innovative nonprofit organisation whose mission is to enable Australians to hold governments and corporations accountable via litigation on human rights, democratic freedoms and climate change.

We launched in 2016 by supporting Doctors for Refugees and Fitzroy Legal Service to successfully overturn draconian gag laws in the Border Force Act which threatened doctors with 2 years in prison for reporting abuse in offshore detention centres. Since then, we've worked to support cases ranging on issues from remote Indigenous housing rights, to climate change risk, to technology and human rights.

Grata Fund works closely with the legal sector, campaigners and academia to develop and fund critical public interest litigation. Based at the UNSW Law Centres Precinct in Sydney, we plan to grow our young organisation into the leading strategic litigation incubator in the country.

Job Responsibilities

This is a new role based in Sydney. The Head of Strategic Litigation Development reports to the Executive Director and is responsible for:

- Developing new strategic litigation leads & briefs: monitoring Federal & State legislative proposals, trends and new laws to identify opportunities for litigation; working with the legal and campaign sector to identify strategic opportunities for litigation; and where necessary, develop briefs for counsel.
- Managing Grata Fund's case application process: reviewing and providing feedback on applications for support; identifying strategic potential of cases to address underlying causes of injustice; soliciting and reviewing independent prospects advice from counsel; and making recommendations to the ED & Board on which cases Grata Fund should support.
- Promoting Grata Fund's offering, application process and partnership philosophy to the legal & campaign sector.
- Developing partnerships with pro bono legal teams and pro bono counsel to take cases from ideation to reality.
- Drafting and managing Indemnity and Guarantee Funding Agreements in funded litigation. Drafting and managing partnership Memorandums of Understanding.
- Drafting submissions for relevant Parliamentary and law reform enquiries.



Qualifications

We're seeking an Australian qualified lawyer with **3+ years legal experience**, who excels at **strategic thinking**, is **results-oriented**, and has strong **project management and relationship-building skills**.

- Results-driven: bias for producing results and a track record of thinking laterally to find solutions (rather than getting immersed in process) and persevering despite obstacles.
- Strategic-thinker: Fluency in reviewing legislative proposals and ability to monitor legislative trends and ability to work with diverse interest groups to identify and foster opportunities for strategic litigation to protect and advance human rights, democracy and climate change.
- Relationship-builder: Track record of building relationships and alliances among a wide range of legal and non-legal players.
- Project management experience: Track record of staying on top of multiple projects without dropping any balls, anticipating obstacles, identifying and involving stakeholders appropriately, and using resources wisely.
- Strong communicator: Stellar formal written communications skills (policy papers, submissions, legal briefs etc). Ability to write stories in a compelling way for non-legal audiences a plus.

Knowledge of third party litigation funding issues and significant prior experience as a litigator or campaigner are plusses but are not requirements.

Salary: approx. \$100k plus 9.5% super, 6 weeks leave and salary packaging options available. Initial 6 month full time fixed term contract, with intention to extend into a permanent role.

Grata Fund hires for potential, not just experience. We make a particular effort to recruit women and people of color.

How to apply

Please send a one-page cover letter and resume to Isabelle Reinecke, Executive Director, at info@gratafund.org.au.

We will be assessing applications on a rolling basis, so please apply as soon as possible.

For more information, please visit our website at www.gratafund.org.au.