

# SOCIAL WORKER

## NEUFELD SCHECK & BRUSTIN, LLP

Neufeld Scheck & Brustin, LLP (NSB), a boutique national civil rights law firm based in NYC, is looking for a Social Worker to help clients who were exonerated to establish a sustainable, committed support system, and assist in preparing them for post-release litigation.

**About the Role:** Most of NSB's clients have recently returned home from prison after spending many years wrongfully incarcerated for crimes they had nothing to do with. Adjusting to life outside of prison, especially after multiple decades, can be profoundly difficult. Many people come home to an entirely new world with few resources or support. The Social Worker will assess their physical, social, mental health and medical needs, and connect them with the appropriate services, such as trauma specialists, medical providers and assistance with housing, transportation, health insurance, educational programs, and employment needs. The Social Worker will not only provide practical, hands-on assistance, but also act as a support person as people navigate their return home after so many years. The imprint of wrongful incarceration is unique to all, but the pain and hurt that clients had to endure takes a toll and everyone is offered this support at NSB.

Our clients come from cities throughout the U.S., and need varying degrees of assistance. Many suffer from complex trauma related to their wrongful conviction and incarceration. They do not fit in a box, and this Social Worker will need to piece together support systems. Flexibility is a must. Developing a rapport and a solid working relationship serves as the foundation as they navigate the ups and downs of their return home. This is a role that requires good clinical, research and oral & written advocacy skills in order to help clients meet their complex needs and achieve their goals, including finding sustainable supports in their communities. In one day, this could mean helping one client gain admission to a dual diagnosis inpatient hospitalization, while finding another a rural dentist and helping another speak with their partner about the traumas related to returning home after decades in prison. The ability to assess and manage crises and highly stressful situations related to clients' trauma within the context of high stakes civil litigation is a must.

This is a full-time role (40 hours), but we are open to a part-time Social Worker who can dedicate at least 24 hours a week to NSB. You should expect to assist clients when emergencies arise, which can occur on weekends and evenings, occasionally. You will also be responsible for coordinating with our attorneys and paralegals, who are often working on tight deadlines. It is a fast-paced, diverse, multi-disciplinary working environment with client needs that change rapidly; the work is largely self-directed and highly collaborative. The Social Worker is permitted to work remotely, but should plan to work in the office at least 1-2x week for in-person meetings. From time-to-time, there are travel opportunities with this role.

**Who Should Apply:** The successful candidate will be independent and organized, with strong clinical skills, experience conducting psychosocial assessments, and ability to advocate on behalf of clients. We strongly encourage applicants from all cultures, races, educational backgrounds, life experiences, socio-economic classes, sexual orientations, ages, genders, and physical abilities to apply. We welcome applicants with personal or family experience with the criminal justice system and/or incarceration. Diversity of our workforce is critical to our success and upholding NSB's mission. This role will be under management of the Senior Social Worker. A minimum of 3 years post MSW work experience is required, preferably in intensive case management or wraparound care. Background in re-entry, forensic social work, and clinical social work is helpful for this role, but not required. Salary starts at \$80,000 (gross) a year for a full-time hire (part-time salary will be pro-rated). NSB offers a wide range of benefits including comprehensive medical and dental coverage, a 401(k) plan, a wellness benefit for

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physical & nutritional health, paid vacation and personal time, paid time off for volunteer service, a charitable contribution match, and paid licensing and continuing education. This role offers opportunities for growth through supervision and training.

**About NSB:** Founded over 20 years ago by Peter Neufeld, Barry Scheck and the late Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr., NSB's constitutional civil rights cases target police misconduct and other types of corruption within the criminal legal system—most commonly, wrongful convictions, excessive force, and abuse of prisoners. Our mission is to use civil litigation to win justice for our clients and hold individuals and institutions accountable. To learn more about NSB, please visit: [www.nsbcivilrights.com](http://www.nsbcivilrights.com).

**How to Apply:** NSB is committed to serving its diverse clients and ensuring an office environment that is welcoming and respectful to people of all backgrounds. As an equal opportunity employer, NSB supports non-discrimination in the firm's employment practices. We strongly encourage applications from all candidates committed to holding officials accountable for their misconduct. To apply, send a resume and cover letter (detailing your interest in working with clients who have been impacted by the criminal legal system) to [careers@nsbcivilrights.com](mailto:careers@nsbcivilrights.com). **Applications will be accepted until Monday, November 29, 2021.**