



NASUCA Seeking Contract Telecommunications Attorney

POSITION SPECIFICATION

April 2019

Position: Contract Attorney - Telecommunications, National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates

National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (“NASUCA”)

NASUCA is an association of 56 consumer advocate offices, including statutorily authorized offices from 41 states and the District of Columbia as well as other non-profit advocates such as AARP and the National Consumer Law Center. NASUCA's members are designated by the laws of their respective jurisdictions to represent the interests of utility consumers before state and federal regulators and in the courts. The offices focus on the electricity, gas, water, wastewater, telephone and cable industries, reviewing a variety of issues including consumer protection issues, service quality, reliability, and price stability. NASUCA assists member offices and coordinates among them to promote an exchange of information relating to these issues and interacts with federal agencies and other national organizations involved in utility regulation. NASUCA holds two Meetings each year for the full membership and regular meetings throughout the year of its Executive Committee, the Heads of Offices, and seven substantive working committees.

NASUCA is currently seeking to hire an Attorney to assist the NASUCA telecommunications committee *on a contract basis*. This is a part-time position for an

external independent contractor. The independent contractor position is not an employee of NASUCA and the contract comes with no benefits.

Position Overview

The Contract Attorney will serve as advisor and consultant to NASUCA's Telecommunications Committee, working closely with the Telecommunications Committee Chair and Steering Committee on regulatory and legal issues that affect telecommunications and broadband services, consistent with NASUCA resolutions. General areas of concern include, but are not limited to, ensuring ubiquitous, reliable and affordable service; consumer protection; delivery of competitive voice and broadband services to all customers in all areas of the country; non-discriminatory treatment of access to telecommunication and broadband service and use of data; the role of telecommunications and broadband as critical infrastructure in supporting essential utility services and public safety; and the effects of technology evolution on these matters in regulatory, policy and legal arenas. Examples of issues addressed by NASUCA include, but are not limited to, changes to federal universal service support programs, pole attachments/rights of way, net neutrality, copper retirement, rural call completion, back-up power in networks and at customer premises, and business data services/special access.

The Contract Attorney will assist in preparing recommendations and administrative and appellate filings at the federal level and participate at NASUCA conferences on matters that affect consumers in telecommunications and broadband services.

The applicant must possess strong writing skills, and familiarity with administrative law, and FCC regulations. Knowledge of federal appellate practice and procedure is a plus. The position requires familiarity and expertise researching FCC information (e.g., comments filed in proceedings, reports on matters such as the extent of competition, and universal service).

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Contract Attorney will include, but not be limited to:

- Provide insight and advice on federal administrative laws, as well as interpretation and application of statutes, rules and regulations as they pertain to the FCC on matters that affect telecommunications and broadband services.

- Work with the Telecommunications Committee to develop the strategy and tactics to propose actions on matters that may be of interest and importance to NASUCA.
- Conduct legal research, investigation and prepare legal documents (i.e. *ex parte filings*; assistance with drafting Resolutions; legal briefs) as may be necessary or requested.
- Assist with preparation of comments to the FCC.
- Provide advice on matters NASUCA addresses in appellate courts, prepare appellate filings and appellate briefs.
- Coordinate with National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”) and applicable Federal and State regulatory agencies, industry groups, and other organizations, in preparation of joint legal filings at the FCC and federal courts.
- Participate in the Telecommunications Committee’s monthly conference calls to update the telecom group on matters and other upcoming issues of interest.
- Other duties as assigned.

Professional Experience and Qualifications

The Contract Attorney must have knowledge of the telecommunications industry and experience working on utility issues. Familiarity with the federal regulatory environment is also required. Knowledge and understanding of the appellate process is preferred. A Bachelor’s Degree and Juris Doctor Degree are required, as is membership in the Bar of one or more State and Federal jurisdictions.

COMPENSATION AND WORK REQUIREMENTS:

The contract will have set annual compensation cap of \$20,000.00. Applicants should provide their proposed hourly fee.

APPLICATIONS AND REFERRALS:

Applicants should send a current resume in Word format and a summary of relevant experience/credentials by May 3, 2019 to:

David Springe

Executive Director

NASUCA

8380 Colesville Road, Suite 101

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Or via email with the subject heading "NASUCA Telecom Attorney Position." to:

David.Springe@nasuca.org

Questions can also be directed to Mr. Springe at this email address.