### Job Title
Youth Defense Counsel

### Reports to
TBD

### Location
Remote

### SUMMARY
The Youth Defense Counsel is an experienced attorney who works to promote justice for all children by ensuring excellence in youth defense through customized training, technical assistance, policy advocacy, research and writing, and collaboration with the youth defense community and other system partners.

### Job Description

#### ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES
The Youth Defense Counsel works collaboratively with the Gault Center team, to support and grow the national community of youth defenders, strengthen youth defense practice and policy, and incorporate youth rights and racial justice throughout programmatic work.

#### ESSENTIAL ATTRIBUTES & SKILLS
The Youth Defense Counsel must:
- Demonstrate commitment to advancing youth rights and interests through a developmental and racial justice lens.
- Possess excellent oral advocacy and presentation skills.
- Possess excellent legal and policy research and writing skills.
- Demonstrate outstanding attention to detail.
- Be able to independently lead projects with minimal supervision and to manage multiple projects.
- Be able to travel, considering travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Embody the Gault Center’s Values (see below).

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
The Youth Defense Counsel will be responsible for:
- Developing, coordinating, and facilitating training for youth defenders and other juvenile court professionals to strengthen youth defense and civil rights for young people.
- Drafting and editing publications and written materials to support the youth defender community and transformation of the juvenile legal system.
- Research and writing on legal issues that are the subject of *amicus curiae* briefs and other policy and litigation strategies.
- Supporting the youth defense community through direct contact with community members, updating content for the Gault Center’s website, and planning the Youth Defender Leadership Summit.
- Fulfilling technical assistance requests from youth defenders and other legal system professionals.
- Working with the Gault Center team to ensure that the Gault Center operates with a lens that pursues youth rights, racial justice, and justice for traditionally marginalized young people.
EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- Demonstrated commitment to and passion for racial and youth justice.
- Licensed attorney with at least three years’ experience in direct representation of youth.
- A comprehensive understanding of the juvenile legal system and related policies and systems.
- Proven ability to work efficiently, timely, and with flexibility in high-pressure situations.
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated accordance with the Gault Center’s Values (see below).

About The Gault Center

THE GAULT CENTER’S ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE & VALUES

The Gault Center is defined by five core actionable principles:

- **Serve, with tenacity**: We are poised at every moment to address the most pressing challenges and seize all opportunities to advance the defense of young people. We know that in doing this, we must work efficiently and expeditiously. There is no task that is too big or too small in our service.

- **Listen, with curiosity**: We recognize that knowing what to do comes from listening. We listen to understand the successes and challenges that our team and community experience. We listen with humility and are receptive to new ideas, points of view, and strategies.

- **Collaborate, with compassion**: We honor and embrace each other’s unique talents, perspectives, and experiences. Diversity centers our work and is the strength of the organization. Our team is most effective when we encourage, recognize, and value each other’s perspectives, cultural differences, and contributions.

- **Inspire, with excellence**: We strive for the quality of our work to set the standard for advocacy in youth defense. When we do our best, we inspire others to do the same, with intentionality, quality, and respect.

- **Lead, with courage**: We lead with heart to ensure liberty and equity for young people. Even when uncomfortable, we push ourselves and each other to investigate and transform systems of injustice. We evolve and adapt to new realities in service of our youth defense community.

THE GAULT CENTER’S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are deeply held values at The Gault Center. As such, we are committed to identifying, selecting, hiring, coaching, and mentoring individuals who bring a range of backgrounds, experiences, and skills to contribute to the expertise of our team.

The Gault Center is an equal-opportunity employer and will comply with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status or family responsibilities, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, matriculation or political affiliation, and any other basis protected by federal, state, or local laws.

Application Process

To apply, please send your resume, cover letter, and a legal or policy writing sample to recruit@defendyouthrights.org with the subject: Youth Defense Counsel.

The Gault Center will begin reviewing applications immediately. This posting will remain open until the position is filled.