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August 3, 2010

Dan Ruben Equal Justice America Building II, Suite 204 13540 East Boundary Road Midlothian, VA 23112

Via email [katie@EqualJusticeAmerica.org] and regular U.S. Mail

RE: Hannah Akintoye

Summer 2010 Fellowship

Martin Luther King, Jr. Internship Program

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Our office would like to sincerely thank you for providing us with such great talent over the past two months. In my seven years with Legal Aid, Hannah Akintoye is no doubt the best summer intern we have had. She proved to be an invaluable member of our team by contributing to the handling of our workload from the very first day.

Hannah gained in-depth experience in a wide variety of practice areas, including elder law, protection from abuse cases, criminal records expungement, child dependency cases, social security and unemployment compensation hearings, and housing law.

Her duties included preparing for and handling a protection from abuse hearing, interviewing clients and drafting criminal records expungement petitions, attending dependency court, social security and unemployment compensation hearings, and conducting research and drafting a variety of legal memoranda. The attorney who accompanied Hannah to the protection from abuse hearing reported that she handled herself very well before the court.

All of the legal memo's Hannah drafted were thoroughly researched, well-written and cogent. In numerous instances, she offered fresh insight and novel suggestions for our attorneys in cases involving complex factual and legal issues. Additionally, Hannah drafted a brochure for our office outlining general dependency court proceedings aimed at parents involved in dependency cases, which will be published and distributed in the near future, and also contributed an article about the requirement of plain language in residential leases for our housing newsletter.





Dan Ruben Re: Hannah Akintoye August 3, 2010 Page Two

Hannah's personal and professional demeanor is commendable. She interacted in a relaxed and sympathetic manner with clients and developed strong working relationships with our staff. She readily sought guidance and direction when required, but for the most part was able to work independently on tasks with minimal oversight. Overall, I have no doubt that Hannah has a very bright future ahead of her in whatever professional endeavors she chooses to pursue.

Once again, we are grateful for the opportunity provided by Equal Justice America for allowing us to work with Hannah this summer, and we sincerely wish her the best in the future.

Very truly yours,

David J. Bennethum, Esquire Managing Attorney, Bristol Office Legal Aid of Southeastern PA

Cc: Hannah Akintoye Elizabeth Fritsch Harvey Strauss