

July 24, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I wanted to write this letter to inform you about the opportunities the Equal Justice America Fellowship has given me to use the law to make a difference in the lives of some of Washington D.C.'s most vulnerable residents.

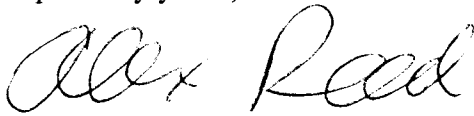
Working at the David A. Clarke School of Law, Housing and Consumer Law Clinic, I have assisted local residents that are at the forefront of the Washington D.C. gentrification crisis. By fighting landlord petitions to take massive rent increases in rent-controlled buildings, suing landlords for rent refunds due to the deplorable housing conditions in residential buildings, and zealously advocating for tenant's rights to stay in safe and healthy living conditions, the clinic has helped preserve D.C. communities that have been home to people of color for generations.

In addition to the housing cases, I also represented two low-income sisters in a negligence action who, despite having several meritorious defenses, had a \$60,000.00 default issued against them as a result of predatory insurance attorneys. The default was vacated and the clinic has two motions for summary judgment pending in D.C. Superior Court.

While I have certainly benefitted professionally from the Equal Justice America Fellowship, I believe the most rewarding aspect of my work this summer is that I am making a concrete difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Too many low-income D.C. residents are bullied, hoodwinked, and bamboozled by those using the legal system to take advantage of people who are intimidated by lawyers and government bureaucracy. By funding my work this summer, the Equal Justice America Fellowship has allowed me and the Housing and Consumer Law Clinic to preserve the homes, health, and life savings of our clients.

Through the Equal Justice America Fellowship, I have been able to gain real-world legal experience while helping the less fortunate of D.C. I have grown as a person based on my experiences and will carry them with me as I pursue a public-interest legal career. On behalf of myself, the clinic, and our clients, thank you for the means to make a difference in the lives of D.C. residents.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Reed". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alexander C. Reed
Student Attorney
Housing and Consumer Law Clinic
David A. Clarke School of Law