

July 17, 2015

Equal Justice America
Building II-Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, Virginia 23112

To whom it may concern:

I would like to thank EJA for helping me serve the homeless community of New Orleans this summer. This has truly been a remarkable experience. From thousand page medical records to clients hugging me for winning their cases or often just for being the first person to help them in a long time, I could not have asked for a more fitting position.

My work schedule was perfect—8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, and during times where we had an increased workload, I was allowed to take work home. This was mainly a result of my own self-motivation. You see, whenever I had a hearing or brief submission coming up, I would create several dozens of copies of either briefs or opening statements. Since I dealt with a number of homeless veterans, and my brother is himself a veteran, I felt a special motivation for helping these people, and an even greater since of reward when I won.

My post dealt heavily with writing administrative briefs. I also worked on federal judicial review briefs and handled some state law matters on housing and family law (my extensive knowledge of the Louisiana Civil Code came in handy here).

Lastly, this position has done more for my future law practice than two years of law school. This clerkship forced me to sharpen my skills set in an array of areas: communication with clients (and difficult people), negotiation, legal research and writing, and time management.

Once more, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Derek Warden
Louisiana State University

LAW OFFICES OF

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA LEGAL SERVICES

Baton Rouge, Covington, Hammond, Harvey, Houma, New Orleans

1010 Common Street, Suite 1400A

New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Telephone: (504) 529-1000

FAX: (504) 596-2241

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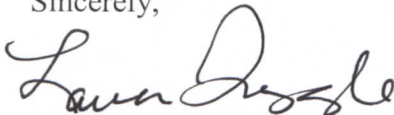
To Whom It May Concern:

It was our pleasure to host Derek Warden as a 2015 summer law clerk at Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. Few people have the ability to walk into a room of strangers and make them feel like they've known each other for years; still fewer are able to build an empathetic working relationship with individual clients in an initial meeting. Derek is one such rare person. Support staff, attorneys, and clients alike were impressed with his drive to assist our most vulnerable clients. His terrific sense of humor was also helpful.

Derek's work performance was second to none. His love of the law, and clients, shone through his daily application to tasks. He wrote more than a dozen Social Security briefs, poured over medical records (some exceeding 3,000 pages), and did countless hours of research – all with a smile.

We are very thankful to have had him as a law clerk. We are so appreciative of the ongoing support from Equal Justice America. Please feel free to contact me at (504) 529-1000 ext. 270 or at ltuggle@slls.org if you need any other information.

Sincerely,



Laura Tuggle
Executive Director

