Summer 2022 EJA Fellow:



Name: Rachel Abrams

Law School: The University of Chicago

Organization: Jenner and Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic

Update 1:

I am excited to be starting my second week with the Jenner and Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic at the University of Chicago Law School. This summer I will be working alongside members of the Jenner and Block team on several upcoming 7th Circuit and Supreme Court Cases, assisting with research and brief writing. In my first week we dove directly into a Case being appealed to the Supreme Court involving a number of questions relating to the constitutionality of a particular piece of legislation. It has been exciting to apply what I have learned in 1L, especially in my Constitutional Law course, in this very real and important way. We have spent the past week orienting ourselves to the prior proceedings, precedents, and the history of the case, and I am excited to now begin the brief writing process. It is exciting and inspiring to have the opportunity to be directly involved with such important and timely impact litigation work so early in my law school career.

Update 2:

This summer has been a fascinating time to be working in a Supreme Court Clinic. We have been working on submitting our first brief of the summer and I am so lucky to be working with such an incredible and experienced team who have been able to provide me with valuable feedback and advice on my writing. I feel like I am growing everyday as a legal writer and advocate. The clinic has also provided me with an incredible opportunity to talk about the Court, the decisions coming down this summer, and how we as lawyers (and future lawyers) and as a clinic can respond and make a difference.

Update 3:

It is hard to believe that I am already 6 weeks into my internship with the Jenner and Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic at the University of Chicago Law School. This week we put the finishing touches on the Supreme Court brief we have been working on. This involved several rounds of edits and cite checks. I feel so

lucky that my supervisor and the team at Jenner and Block have so valued my input and feedback on the drafts. This week I also began a new research project, and I am excited to dive into another area of constitutional law.

Update 4:

Today marks my last day with the Jenner and Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic as a summer intern, but luckily, I get to return in just a few weeks as a student attorney when school begins again. I could not have asked for a better internship experience. I have learned so much this summer about constitutional law, legal writing and research, and Supreme Court and appellate litigation, and I am grateful that I had the opportunity this summer to continue to build a foundation of legal skills while also contributing to important and impactful work. My experience in the clinic and in working with an appellate litigation group has really demonstrated for me the positive impact lawyers can have in many different settings and fields and the immense power of good lawyering. I struggled this summer as I watched the Court return decision after decision that seemed to chip away at the work that has been done over the past half a century ago, but the knowledge that there are lawyers, some of the best and brightest in the country, who are continuing to work towards protecting the rights of all people and uphold justice in our highest court, inspires me to continue forward in pursuit of being part of that work as well.

Update 5:

It is hard to believe it has been over two weeks since my time as a summer intern in the Jenner and Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic came to a close. I feel so lucky to have gotten to be a part of the clinic and to have gained such meaningful, hands-on experience. This summer I was able to continue to grow and develop my writing and research skills while also assisting with major impact litigation cases. I have been so inspired and energized by this work and I look forward to continuing in the clinic this fall and continuing to develop my skills in litigation and appellate practice. Throughout the OCI process interviewers have consistently been impressed with the work I was able to do this summer and my experience with Supreme Court and Appellate litigation. I have loved sharing about my time in the clinic and am so grateful to have had this experience and built these skills while doing meaningful work and contributing to important impact litigation. I am so grateful to Equal Justice America and the University of Chicago Law School making this opportunity possible. EJA funds public interest law students across the country who are working to provide legal services to those most marginalized.