August 31, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Ruben,

My experience this summer working at the Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Legal Services office has been fantastic. The office provides free legal services to low-income residents of Central Brooklyn. It is associated with Legal Services NYC, and it covers a variety of legal issues, including housing, foreclosure, and unemployment insurance. For my part, I worked with Jacquelyn Griffin and the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, which assists mostly low income taxpayers with tax controversies before the IRS. Ms. Griffin was an excellent supervisor, and I learned so much this summer.

I worked on a range of cases for the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic. I assisted clients in achieving compliance by filing their delinquent tax returns and setting up affordable payment plans for their liabilities. I helped clients to respond to audits, file identity theft claims, remove liens and levies, and correct misclassification of their employment relationship as an independent contractor. I preserved a client's right to appeal by filing in Tax Court.

I was glad to be able to make a difference in helping clients as they deal with their tax issues. The tax controversies were sometimes overwhelming in their effect on clients' lives, and the steps necessary to put the issue behind them could seem similarly overwhelming. It was rewarding to be able to take concrete steps to solving the clients' difficulties, and it was satisfying to be thanked so profusely by them for my assistance over the summer.

Sincerely,

Allison Yurcik

J.D. Candidate, 2014

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Columbia Law School