

BRAD KONDRACKI

August 30, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am writing to thank you for the Equal Justice America Fellowship that I received last summer. I worked at the Guild Food Stamp Clinic in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and am currently a second year law student at the University of Pennsylvania.

My experience at the Guild Food Stamp Clinic was very rewarding. I was able to help quite a few clients whose food stamps were cut off or reduced receive the amount of food stamps that they were entitled to. Most of the interaction with clients was done over the phone although a few did come into the clinic in person. The majority of my time was spent talking to caseworkers and their supervisors and trying to figure out why my client was having problems with their food stamps and then trying to fix the problem.

One experience that was memorable was helping a client whose food stamps were cut off because he failed to respond to a Semi-Annual Reporting Notice on time. This client was unable to read and this did not realize what he was supposed to do when he get the Semi-Annual Reporting Notice and did not know anything was wrong until his food stamps were cut off. I was able to help him fill out the proper forms for getting his food stamps back on in a short time. I was able to get the welfare department to put a note in his file so that in the future, the caseworker, in addition to sending a letter, makes contact by phone since the client is unable to read.

Thank you again for the Fellowship and for enabling me to have a very rewarding summer.

Sincerely,



Brad Kondracki
University of Pennsylvania Law School
Class of 2007