August 30, 2013

Dan Ruben Executive Director Equal Justice America

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I want to thank you and Equal Justice America for making me a fellow and helping fund my internship with the Christian Legal Aid of Los Angeles (CLA-LA). I had an amazing summer developing legal skills and serving the underprivileged. It was an invaluable experience getting to interview clients and help them with their legal issues.

Not only did I learn the law behind many common legal problems and update CLA-LA's Legal Urgent Care Manual, I got to meet and interview numerous clients throughout the summer. They all came from different walks of life and with different stories. I would like to share with you one particular client story.

One of my clients returned to CLA-LA's clinic for her second time on her journey back to recovery. She was previously addicted to drugs and committed several felonies during this dark time in her life. She served time in jail, completed probation, and entered a rehabilitation program. After that, she decided to turn her life around and pursue her dreams of becoming a chef. My client explained all of these life details in our interview and I was amazed that she had such a strong will to fight for change.

During our interview session, a supervising attorney and I were able to complete expungement paperwork for her to file with the court so that she could work towards clearing her record and obtaining a job. She expressed great appreciation for our work and encouraged us to continue working hard to bring hope into disadvantaged people's lives. It was wonderful to be able to use my legal knowledge to accomplish something so meaningful and my client's story encouraged me to strive harder towards my goal of becoming a life-changing attorney.

Thank you truly for your support this past summer. You helped me and through CLA-LA have helped numerous clients. I know Equal Justice America will continue bringing justice and change to people all over America.

Sincerely,

Chervl Ma

Loyola Law School, Class of 2015

mac@lls.edu