GABRIELLE A. MULNICK

3201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Apt. 704 · Washington, DC 20016 · (609) 472-1725 · gmulnick@hotmail.com

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I must begin by thanking you and the members who comprise your organization for enabling me to pursue a law clerkship with a fantastic legal services organization – the Children's Law Center in Washington, DC – over the summer months. The experience has met and surpassed my expectations for the summer and fueled my desire to quickly finish up this last year of school so I can start my career as a full-fledged direct legal services attorney!

Although I had interned with the Children's Law Center, Health Access Project during the semester directly preceding this summer, the experiences I had over the past ten weeks of the summer were markedly more diverse and intricately involved in the day-to-day happenings of cases and clients in a more meaningful way. Since I had already proven myself as a capable worker during my semester's stay, my supervising attorneys gave me greater autonomy and the ability to take on additional tasks, such as independently conducting intakes, researching principle arguments for the special education due process hearings that came before my supervising attorneys, and even having the opportunity to essentially to single-handedly work with a client and case my supervising attorney wouldn't have been able to take on had it not been for my presence. This particular client, a teenage mother with a young son, did not have any personal identification, benefits, or health insurance for herself or her son. Although her son was nearly two years old, this young and caring mother did not have the resources to take him for a simple doctor's appointment or ensure that he would receive his necessary immunizations. Through extensive research and telephone calls to other local practitioners, I developed and implemented a case plan to meet this client's objectives. Thanks to my advocacy, this young mother and child now both have medical insurance, up-to-date medical care, child care during the daytime hours, and receive benefits so that mom can adequately support and care for her personal needs and the needs of her child.

Now that my last year of law school is underway, I constantly find that the research, writing, interviewing, and client-centered experience I gained over the summer months has left me extremely well-equipped to take on my own clients as a student attorney with the law school clinic that I will work in for the remainder of my law school career. My summer's experiences learning the field of special education law have been truly invaluable. I am in the midst of applying for post-graduate fellowships and hope that I will receive the funding so that I may execute the special education fellowship project that I developed over the summer months.

None of these experiences would have been possible without the generous support of Equal Justice America. I am forever grateful for the doors that the Equal Justice America Fellowship has opened for me and hope that future generations of public interest-minded law students will be able to pursue their heartfelt goals with Equal Justice America's support.

Best regards,

Gabrielle Mulnick