

August 26, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to you to summarize my work this summer. I had a marvelous experience, and I am extremely grateful to EJA for funding this internship opportunity.

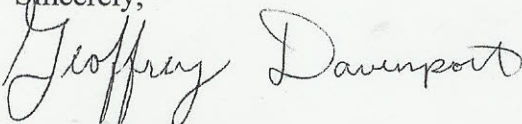
I spent the summer working at Make the Road by Walking (MRBW) a not-for-profit, membership-led organization based in Bushwick, Brooklyn. MRBW's membership is comprised primarily of low-income Latino and frequently immigrant individuals and families that live in Bushwick. MRBW mixes organizing, advocacy and legal services in its efforts to help members fight for economic justice and self-determination.

My work this summer was uncommonly varied (at my request). I worked alongside MRBW's attorneys and advocates on the cases of several MRBW members. These cases included housing law (eviction, code violations); family law (child custody, medical power of attorney); and employment law (unpaid wages). My work on these cases included interviewing members, conducting legal research, drafting motions and demand letters and attending court hearings. In addition, I conducted more in-depth legal research exploring the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act to local businesses and employees.

I could not have imagined a more positive summer experience (this is my 3<sup>rd</sup> summer in law school and I had five years full-time nonprofit experience prior to my studies at NYU.) Several factors contributed to my positive experience. Because of MRBW's innovative community-driven organizational structure, I was confident that my work was having an impact far larger than the immediate legal question before me. Supervision was excellent (available, very supportive), but I was simultaneously given a refreshing level of autonomy, and my initiative was rewarded with greater opportunity. I greatly enjoyed the personalities, expertise and commitment of MRBW's members and staff. And the neighborhood itself (Bushwick, Brooklyn), I found to be wonderfully enjoyable to work in.

I thank you and the rest of the EJA staff for the funding that enabled me to take this internship position.

Sincerely,



Geoff Davenport  
NYU Class of 2006