

September 8, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Thank you for the funding provided through Equal Justice America. Equal Justice America's financial support enabled me to work with the Chicago Legal Clinic this past summer.

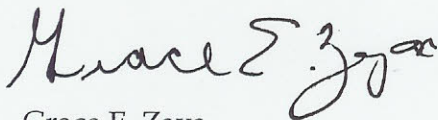
I had a wonderful experience with the Clinic. I had the opportunity to engage in substantive legal work. As a senior law student, I was able to use my temporary license issued pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 711 to represent clients in court. I was thrilled to have had so much in-court time. In the beginning, I was so nervous about stepping up before the judge--judges can be very intimidating. As the summer wore on, I became more and more comfortable in court. By the end of the summer, I realized that I really enjoyed being in court.

I also had the opportunity to draft motions and other legal documents. This was especially helpful because I was able to move from theory to practice. That is, I saw civil procedure less as a conglomeration of rules that spelled the death knoll for various cases, and more as an inherent, and much-needed, part of practicing law. However, I also saw that the rules for civil procedure could be misused. At one point, an opposing party moved the court to extend her client's deadline by falsely stating that the Chicago Legal Clinic had not responded in a timely manner to her client's request for documentation. Although this certainly was not true, as we had responded in a very timely manner, the opposing party's deadline was still extended (the judge did not even read my response to the opposing party's motion!).

To those to whom much is given, much will be required, Luke 12:48. As a widowed immigrant who spoke broken English at best, my mother struggled to raise four kids in a foreign land. Many people helped us along the way, and I am very grateful for their kindness. Through my family's experiences, I have developed a deep desire to serve in the public sector; it is the reason why I decided to attend law school. I have been given much.

The most important thing I learned during my summer experience is that the commitment of a few could make all the difference in the world. Thank you for your commitment to public interest work and for Equal Justice America's financial support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Grace E. Zaya".

Grace E. Zaya  
Loyola University Chicago School of Law  
Expected Graduation: 12/2006