

August 31, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I was an intern at the Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc. during the summer of 2017. While the Clinic provides legal assistance in all areas of the law, my office focused on family based immigration. Throughout my internship I was able to observe many client meetings and developed a new appreciation for the impact an immigration attorney has on keeping families together.

I worked closely with a client applying for naturalization. While the client was completing the interview with the immigration officer, I waited with the spouse who shared with me the family's hopes for the future. Unfortunately, the client was not granted citizenship after the interview and we needed to provide additional evidence to the immigration officer. Over the following weeks, I worked closely with the client to provide the necessary documents for the request for additional information and drafted a letter to the immigration officer advocating why the client should be granted citizenship.

We received a response from the immigration officer a few weeks later and still more information needed to be provided before the application would be approved. I communicated almost every day with the client to obtain the additional information. Once all the documents were in order, the client and their spouse and children came to the office [to] review the letter I had drafted to the immigration officer. I could sense their relief and apprehension that this would

hopefully be the final hurdle before the client was granted citizenship. As of the last day of my internship the client was still waiting for a response.

It was a privilege to work with the clients such as this one and to be a small part of keeping these families together.

Sincerely,

Maggie Meza

J.D. Candidate 2019  
Loyola University Chicago School of Law



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Dear Mr. Ruben:

I had the pleasure of working with Maggie Meza during the summer of 2017. I am the Supervisory Attorney and Immigration Program Director at the Chicago Legal Clinic, Inc. Maggie worked directly under my supervision and I had the opportunity to observe her work habits and demeanor.

During her internship, Maggie worked primarily with clients applying for permanent residency and naturalization. Maggie communicated with clients in English and Spanish to obtain information to complete their immigration applications. In one case, Maggie drafted a letter to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services advocating on behalf of a client applying for citizenship. Maggie also completed legal research on various issues including what constitutes a crime of moral turpitude in immigration law.

Maggie was passionate about her work and was always eager to learn. She had a good rapport with clients and was a pleasure to work with.

Sincerely,

Caroline Shoenberger, Esq.