

Mohammad Alturk
141 Fuller Street, Apartment 1
Brookline, MA 02446

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

21 August 2007

Dear Mr. Ruben:

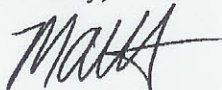
I am extremely pleased with my Summer Fellowship at the El Paso, Texas branch of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Looking back over my time and experiences with TRLA, I honestly do not believe I could have made a better decision about where to split my summer. I spent the first half of the summer working for a corporate law firm in Cairo, Egypt. Comparing the two positions, it is clear that TRLA afforded me a better and more meaningful experience hands down. Instead of spending hours upon hours researching and writing memoranda, at TRLA I was given the opportunity and freedom to interview clients, draft motions, and represent indigent clients in court.

Two of the most rewarding experiences during my time at TRLA involved clients needing assistance with pending evictions. I was able to successfully defend one client in this regard through representation before the court. I argued multiple defenses, including waiver, excessive demand for rent, retaliation, and promissory estoppel. The court ruled in our favor and denied the plaintiff possession of the house and reduced my client's late fees to a reasonable, non-excessive amount. In my second housing case, I was able to successfully negotiate a settlement agreement on behalf of my client in which the landlord waived all back rent and late fees in exchange for a release of my client's

multiple unlawful lockout claims. Such experiences have not only bolstered my substantive knowledge of the law, but also acclimated me to the procedure and protocol of trial. Best of all, these experiences have left me morally fulfilled. Instead of working on behalf of huge, faceless corporations, as I was doing my first part of the summer, I was able to make a significant difference in the lives of underprivileged people.

I believe that my Summer Fellowship with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid has provided me with a strong foundation and desire for continuing in public interest law. I am deeply grateful to you, Mr. Ruben, and to Equal Justice America for funding my Summer Fellowship. You allowed me to have a positive impact on the lives of TRLA's indigent clients while affording me the privilege of experiencing such a positive clerkship via my time at TRLA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MAlturk', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mohammad Alturk
Boston University School of Law
Class of 2009