

August 13, 2014

Equal Justice America
13540 East Boundary Road
Building II, Suite 204
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Equal Justice America,

As a recipient of an Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship, I need to thank Dan, Sandra, Rick, Nancy, and Gwen for making this experience possible. With their support, I had a fantastic summer at the Center for Veterans Advancement with Public Counsel in Los Angeles, CA.

In my position as a summer clerk with the Center for Veterans Advancement, I helped provide *pro bono* legal services to homeless and indigent veterans in the Los Angeles community. One of my first assignments was a family law matter where a veteran was seeking to further his visitation rights with his children. I performed extensive legal research on the issue and drafted necessary pleadings in order to seek an order from the court.

One day in June, our organization attended a "Stand Down" event sponsored by Goodwill of Southern of California. The event serves as a resource for struggling veterans who need services such as medical, legal, housing, and job placement support. I assisted our organization by working an informational table at the event screening for potential clients and providing information about our services.

I then became a certified law student with the State Bar of California and made supervised appearances defending traffic infractions and misdemeanor warrants. Over the course of the representation, I drafted letters of consideration on behalf of our clients and gave supervised legal advice. Not only was I able to assist those in need, but I also gained valuable in-court experience for my future career.

In addition to direct legal services, I also had an opportunity to work on a policy issue affecting our nation's servicemen and women. Specifically, I advocated for a change in the existing Department of Defense procedure for investigating and prosecuting sexual assaults in the military. With direction and guidance, I was able to navigate through several previous points of contention raised by lawmakers.

Overall, I had an amazing experience with the Center for Veterans Advancement at Public Counsel. With assistance from an Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship, I was able to pursue my desire to help our veterans and provide legal assistance to those who needed it most. In fact, Equal Justice America has worked to provide over \$9 million in grants that pay for legal services for the poor. They

perform amazing work and play a vital role in ensuring the poor have access to legal services, all while supporting the next generation of legal professionals.

As I continue through my career, I will always remember my summer at the Center for Veterans Advancement and the support I received from Equal Justice America.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Krebs
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Equal Justice America Fellow, Summer of 2014