



BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE  
FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST  
25 E. Washington St. Ste. 1515  
Chicago, IL 60602

23 September 2013

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

Dear Ms. Toman,

As the internship coordinator at Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), I write to report on Paul Balik's work as a summer intern, which was supported in part with a grant from your organization.

Paul Balik, a law and graduate student at NYU, completed a 10-week internship at BPI between May and August of this year. He was one of six interns selected from a pool of 300 candidates. Given Paul's studies in law and urban development, as well as his prior experience in administrative law, we were thrilled to be able to have him as a member of our intern class.

Paul interned with our Public Housing and Affordable Housing teams where he made significant contributions to several of BPI's Chicago-focused initiatives. His projects included researching and supporting strategy formulation for ameliorating the harms of abandoned properties, ensuring long-term affordability of subsidized for-sale units in mixed-income condo developments, and fostering business development in redeveloped public housing communities.


Legal and policy staff members were pleased with the quality of his work, his responsiveness to suggestions, and his tenacity in seeking out sources. When I asked one of our affordable housing analysts for feedback, she had this to say about his work:

Paul struck me as very well organized and able to organize information in a very clear, thoughtful way. I thought his writing was excellent, and he was responsive to feedback. He was easy to work with and had a very positive attitude.

Thank you for your support of Paul's work with BPI this summer. As a small nonprofit organization, our summer internship program is critical to support BPI's work in impact litigation, post-decree monitoring, lobbying, community organizing, and policy advising.

If you have any questions about BPI or Paul Balik's work, please feel free to contact me by email ([kbemis@bpichicago.org](mailto:kbemis@bpichicago.org)) or phone (312.641.5454).

Best regards,

  
Karen S. Bemis  
Staff Counsel