August 17, 2005

Mr. Dan Ruben Executive Director Equal Justice America 13540 East Boundary Rd. Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I begin this letter with a hearty "thank you" for your assistance in making this summer's opportunities possible. My Summer Fellowship at the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago was a wonderful learning experience. The summer unfolded under the tutelage of a group of impassioned advocates and dedicated, skilled attorneys. I came away with an even greater appreciation of the public interest law profession, the needs of low income clients and my own place within that framework.

At AIDS Legal Council of Chicago (ALCC), I was given a wide range of responsibilities, from interviewing witnesses in breach-of-confidentiality cases to drafting legal documents such as simple wills and power-of-attorney forms for property and health care. My major accomplishments of the summer include writing two memoranda (Rulings on the Record) for clients seeking Social Security Disability Income and proposing a new HIV/AIDS non-discrimination and confidentiality policy to a nationally prominent nonprofit. One of the highlights of my internship was the opportunity to attend a state-level policy meeting on how Illinois plans to handle citizens who might require both Medicare Part D and state-funded drug programs.

The legal services offered by ALCC attorneys and paralegals could never be mastered in 10 weeks, but through this internship I got a fair sense of the complexities of public aid, employment law, family law and medical privacy issues. By being on "intake" once a week, I was put into direct contact with potential clients and able to improve my interviewing and analysis skills. I learned about partnerships that exist throughout the legal profession with other professional areas. For example, through the Family Options program, I was able to observe how my supervising attorney worked with social workers in a program meant to add stability to the lives of children who had gone through or were going through guardianships because their parents were victims of AIDS. The internship also allowed me to improve my legal research skills, paper and electronic.

I appreciate EJA's generosity this summer. It is my intent to pay the organization back in kind once my career takes root. I hope that you will be able to continue your good work for years to come.

Sincerely,

Priya Sazawal Koul

Chicago-Kent College of Law

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