

October 25, 2010

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I would like to sincerely express my gratitude in receiving the Equal Justice America Fellowship this summer which provided me the opportunity to work on various civil rights issues affecting minorities and those in poverty. This summer as an intern with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Public Policy Department I had the opportunity to perform research, write legal and policy memorandum, attend Congressional hearings, and participate in many other events pertaining to civil rights work. I had the opportunity to advocate for civil rights issues in the areas of voting rights, education, employment, immigration, and judicial nominations all of which have an impact on those in poverty. The highlight of my summer was working on the nomination of Elena Kagan to the Supreme Court in which I created and drafted questions pertaining to civil rights issues that the court could face including questions about access to representation for pro se litigants who cannot afford representation as a result of economic hardship. Three of these questions were asked during the confirmation hearings.

My experience this summer also involved various lunches and panels on the importance of public interest work and being able to assist those that do not have the means necessary to help themselves. I also had the opportunity to participate in a day of service in which the fellows helped at a community garden that provides fresh fruit and vegetables to inner city families that would otherwise not have access to these foods.

My experiences this summer reaffirmed my desire to pursue a legal career in public service and to continue fighting those that cannot fight for themselves. I could not have had this experience without the assistance from Equal Justice America and for that I am extremely grateful.

Sincerely,

Tyler Ray
CUA Law 2011



LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS
UNDER LAW

A nonprofit, nonpartisan legal organization formed at the request of President Kennedy in 1963



October 26, 2010

Mr. Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Tyler was an invaluable asset to the Public Policy Department in the Summer of 2010 and volunteered to stay on additional time, which has been a tremendous asset to us. Tyler is a professional, quick learner and genuinely interested in the work of the Lawyers' Committee and its policy initiatives. He helped the policy unit create advocacy materials (talking points, fact sheets, etc.) for a variety of different legislative issues pertinent to the organization. He was instrumental in conducting research on issues as varied as Immigration and Voter Deception, while being pulled into our work on Supreme Court/Judicial Nominations as well as Election Protection. Further, he attended and summarized many relevant hearings and issues panels on Capitol Hill on behalf of our department while staying abreast of relevant legislation and news. He was well-integrated into the Lawyers' Committee day-to-day, as he participated in Board Committee meetings, staff meetings and other office-wide projects.

Tyler worked effectively at completing these tasks and worked closely with the Policy Director and Associate to pursue many of our efforts. He showed an above average understanding and commitment to our work, as he communicated effectively and astutely about relevant topics. Generally, he worked determinately to complete tasks on time (even last minute assignments) and collaborated with other staff effectively. His research and analysis of often complex issues and statutes was exceptional. His writing improved over the course of his time here, and will continue to show improvement, as I encouraged him to be more thorough with his editing. He inquired respectfully about breaking into policy work and other related opportunities.

On a personal level, I appreciated his relaxed yet professional demeanor. He was always efficient in completing assignments and a communicative and respectfully social presence in the office. Ultimately, it is clear Tyler learned a lot and we appreciated the enthusiasm with which he approached the work. Thank you for the opportunity to host him during his fellowship.

Best Regards,

Kenneth W. Chandler II
Public Policy Associate