

Dear Mr. Ruben,

Working for Great Boston Legal Services (GBLS) in the Welfare Law Unit was an exciting and educational experience. As the sole intern in the department, I had the opportunity for daily client interactions and was able to positively effect their lives. Within the first two weeks, and while still in training, I had cases that I was able to resolve. I was able to do this in large part because of the generosity of Equal Justice America.

Getting low-income clients benefits was an eye-opening and humbling experience. I was constantly dealing with crises. Each case was of great importance to the clients and their families and needed to be resolved as quickly as possible. Since we specialized mostly with [Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)], most clients were women with young children. Many were facing erroneous and confusing termination notices that would leave them with no benefits. Other clients, along with their children, had already lost benefits and were struggling day to day. I worked as quickly as possible to get them help. The expertise in the Welfare Law Unit was invaluable and cases were solved almost exclusively in the clients' favor and in a timely manner. I felt a great sense of relief and accomplishment as each case was closed.

At GBLS I got to work on a wide variety of cases. One day a client called the office to say that her electricity had been shut off. Despite being outside our normal wheelhouse, within a couple of days we had her electricity turned back on and the majority of her bill erased. Instead of dropping the case, I ended up working with

her on a continued basis to combat potential future shut-offs and to manage her debt.

This is just one of many client experiences that I will remember from this summer. There is arguably no group more unfairly demonized in this current climate than welfare recipients and I am delighted to have had the opportunity to provide needed support.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Wolf  
University of Michigan Law School  
J.D. Candidate, May 2019