

William Lim

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August 31, 2006

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

Re: Fellowship Questionnaire – Summer 2006

Dear Mr. Ruben:

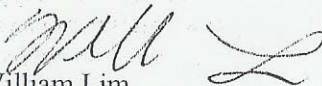
I wish to thank you and Equal Justice America for providing me with fellowship funding this summer for my internship at the National Center for Law & Economic Justice (NCLEJ, formerly the Welfare Law Center). I initially chose to work at NCLEJ because their approach to poverty law is class action impact litigation. Having previously worked on individual client representation at South Brooklyn Legal Services (made possible by another Equal Justice America fellowship), I wanted to broaden my range of litigation experience to include complex class actions.

This summer, I was heavily involved in the continuing *Reynolds v. Giuliani* food stamps/Medicaid case. *Reynolds* is a nine-year old case alleging the city and state of New York have unreasonably delayed the processing of food stamps and Medicaid applications in violation of federal statutes. Following a district court judgment for the plaintiffs, the city and state appealed to the Second Circuit. My responsibilities included analyzing the city and state appellate briefs, and crafting possible arguments in opposition. Although my internship ended before plaintiffs' reply brief was due, I am nevertheless excited that my work will be incorporated in some way into the brief.

I was also heavily involved in the more recent litigation arising from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Working with Texas and Louisiana co-counsel, NCLEJ sued FEMA alleging two violations of federal statutes: improper termination of temporary housing assistance and failure to provide handicapped-accessible temporary housing. My responsibilities in these cases included research on possible claims for attorney's fees should the plaintiffs ultimately prevail, as well as participating in conference calls about a possible media campaign.

My experience at NCLEJ has given me a new perspective on litigation as well as taught me how, ten years after "welfare reform," laws providing for public benefits continue to be under attack. I am therefore all the more committed to making poverty law and advocacy a part of my career as a lawyer. I am grateful to Equal Justice America and NCLEJ for the opportunity this summer to bolster my understanding of the challenges and rewards of serving the public interest.

Sincerely,


William Lim

Fordham Law School
Class of 2007