

Fellowship Final Essay

Dear Dan Ruben,

This summer, I worked as a research Fellow for UDC's low income tax clinic. I worked on a special project to find suitable clients for low income tax clinics all over the country. I did that by going to the Tax Court house in D.C. and looking up case records in upcoming case dockets. Working in D.C. gave me a particular advantage to do this type of research because it is the only place it could be done.

I had seven dockets to work on and I completed data sheets for all the cases in the seven dockets. The data sheets are where I would put important information such as the petitioner's name, address, income and what the main issue of their case was. Sometimes this information would be difficult to find because there were so many documents in the case file, it would be difficult to search through them all.

I also helped Professor Lainez with research for some of the tax papers she was writing. I wrote a short research brief with information about business visas and how computer programmers were using those visas to get into the country.

I did not work with clients directly this summer. However, the work I did directly effects future clients. The Low-Income Tax Clinics can reach out to people that fit their criteria and really need help. Going to the Tax Court and previewing a potential clients case saves time because now the Clinics have a targeted group to approach.

I spent most of my time in the records room at the Tax court house. Looking through all of those tax court documents has made me more familiar with tax terms and definitions. This experience will help me with future tax classes and clinics.

Thank you

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