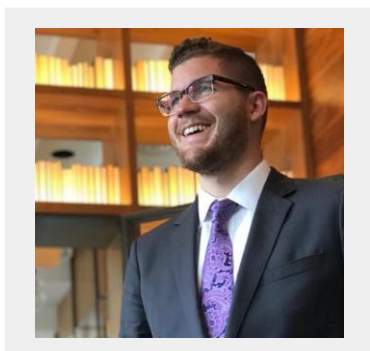




## Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



**Name:** Micah Parnell

**Law School:** Boston College

**Internship:** Greater Boston Legal Services

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### Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

#### #EJAFellowUpdate

Over the past few weeks I have worked with Greater Boston Legal Services to conduct intakes and support people who have been wrongfully evicted. I am amazed by the scale of urgent need that goes unmet, sometimes for years, which sometimes means entire families are forced out of their homes.

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### Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

#### #EJAFellowUpdate

My biggest takeaway from my work with Greater Boston Legal Services so far is the widespread need for civil legal assistance for disenfranchised individuals. The social safety net is often difficult to navigate or non-existent for many Americans. Legal aid is an essential component in the war on poverty and the fight for equality.

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### Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

#### #EJAFellowUpdate

During the past month, I helped write a brief for a social security appeal in federal court. I also have continued researching Medicare issues.

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### Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

#### #EJAFellowUpdate

Hard to believe my time at Greater Boston Legal Services is coming to an end. In my brief time, I helped write a brief for a social security appeal in federal court, provided guidance on complex Medicare issues, and assisted various organizational efforts.

August 16, 2018

Dan Ruben  
Executive Director  
Equal Justice America

Re: Summer Fellowship of Micah Parnell

Dear Mr. Ruben:

Micah Parnell interned in the Elder, Health, & Disability Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services from June 5, 2018. He is scheduled to leave on August 17, 2018. He worked on a range of Social Security and Supplemental Security income disability benefits and health care access issues. His work included research and drafting for two federal court briefs, research on federal court decisions concerning the medical improvement standard, preparation of an internal memorandum concerning the criteria for challenging a Medicare national coverage determination, and research on lipectomy for HIV-related lipodystrophy. In addition to legal research and writing, his work included interviewing clients, factual investigation, evidence gathering, and case preparation and analysis. He took primary responsibility for preparing a client with ADHD, depression, anxiety, and a seizure disorder for an ALJ hearing.

Mr. Parnell's performance was excellent. His work was thorough, complete and professionally competent. He worked well on his own, knew when to ask for guidance, followed directions and exhibited good judgment. His research and writing skills are excellent, and I am anticipating favorable outcomes in the federal court cases that he worked on.

It was a pleasure to supervise Mr. Parnell. He established excellent rapport with a very challenging client. His work this past summer was invaluable to the Elder, Health & Disability Unit and to our clients. His presence enabled us to serve clients who would have otherwise gone unrepresented, increasing access to health care and subsistence benefits for these individuals. We truly appreciate the funding from Equal Justice America that made his internship possible.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy Lorenz  
Senior Attorney