



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



Name: Javionte Johnson

Law School: Brooklyn Law School

EJA Fellowship: The Community Service Society

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate I have been interning at the Community Service Society for a little over 3 weeks and the work that we do here is amazing. We offer legal services to low-income individuals with criminal records. We have a special unit dedicated to filing new sealing motions for convictions pursuant to a new NYC law. So far, I have been enjoying the work that I do here

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate Over the past two months I have worked with the Community Service Society to conduct intakes and represent anyone who has been the victim of discrimination based on their criminal record, while also working on motions to have those same convictions sealed based on a new law passed in New York City last October. I truly enjoy the work I do, as it helps give a voice to those who are historically silenced and give many a ground to stand on when society and so many others have turned their back on them. Please consider supporting Equal Justice America, so that my work, and the work of my peers, may continue.

Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate While continuing the re-entry work of CSS, I was able to represent a client at a New York City Housing Authority remaining family member hearing. Our client was at risk of losing her family apartment after the death of her parents, and it was my job as her counsel to ensure that did not happen. I was able to form a great working relationship with our client and the hearing went smoothly.

Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate I have completed my time as an intern at the Community Service Society and it was an invaluable experience. The work I did with re-entry, sealing records, and analyzing our clients' rap sheets will be incredibly helpful for my career as a public defender. I was able to represent two clients on the official court record. I am happy to report that both cases had favorable decisions, with one of our clients being able to maintain residency in her apartment that she had been living in since her childhood. The experience gained and connections that I fostered at CSS will help me on my path to ensuring fair and equitable treatment under the law for my clients.

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RE: Javionte Johnson Evaluation

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Emily Hoffman, and I am a Staff Attorney in the Community Service Society's Legal Department. I was Javionte Johnson's primary direct supervisor this summer.

The Legal Department represents individuals who are facing barriers to employment and housing based on their criminal records through litigation, administrative proceedings, and informal advocacy. Interns participate in all aspects of this work.

Javionte was a major asset to the Legal Department this summer. Under my supervision, he conducted the direct examination at two administrative hearings, leading us to win both proceedings. He also drafted a sealing motion for a client, and completed various legal research assignments in support of our work.

It was a pleasure working with Javionte, and I am grateful to EJA for providing financial support for his internship. I look forward to watching where his law school career and future work take him.

Sincerely,

Emily Hoffman, Esq.
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