

September 9, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Dan Ruben:

I am incredibly fortunate to have worked alongside passionate immigration attorneys at Catholic Charities of the East Bay this past summer. I am equally thankful for the support I received from Equal Justice America.

Over the course of ten weeks, I helped screen eight immigration consultations every week, I compiled and submitted eighteen U-visa applications, I requested sixteen police certifications for U-visa applications, I proofread and translated twenty client declarations, and I translated dozens of supporting documents from Spanish to English.

I also volunteered at a naturalization fair in Hayward, I attended an agency partnership meeting to coordinate a second naturalization fair in Contra Costa County this fall, and sat in three conference calls offered by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to learn more about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals renewal process. It was an eventful and enriching summer, to say the least.

This internship served to remind me why I came to law school in the first place. I had forgotten that I came to law school to one day provide clients with honest legal counsel regarding their immigration petitions. This internship rekindled that fire. The clients I served and the work I completed this summer not only reminded me why I chose to come to law school but it also reaffirmed that I wish to continue doing this inspiring work.

I sincerely thank everyone who mentored me leading up to and throughout this summer internship. Thank you to everyone who made this experience possible, from the faculty and staff at the Santa Clara University Center for Social Justice to my supervising attorney and partners at Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Finally, I thank everybody at Equal Justice America who made this summer stipend possible. I could not have done this without you.

Sincerely,

Sara Elizabeth Salas
J.D. Candidate 2016
Santa Clara University School of Law