



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2022 EJA Fellow:



Name: Rebecca Nelson

Law School: UCLA School of Law

Organization: Public Counsel, Opportunity Under Law

Update 1:

After finishing my first year at UCLA School of Law, I am working with Public Counsel's Opportunity Under Law Project (OUL) this summer. Public Counsel is the nation's largest provider of pro bono legal services, and OUL is the organization's community-driven impact litigation group.

My work is partially funded by an award from Equal Justice America, an organization that supports law students working to address the civil legal needs of our most vulnerable populations.

During my first few weeks at Public Counsel, I have worked primarily on a lawsuit OUL brought against California arguing that racially and economically marginalized students have been harmed by disparate access to education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Update 2:

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Last week I worked on a lawsuit OUL brought against New York City and State asserting a right to an antiracist education. Public Counsel represents the youth-led organization IntegrateNYC in this groundbreaking suit. I



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am researching and writing about the New York State education code and the centralized distribution of power in the New York City public school system.

Update 3:

As a former educator, I am profoundly grateful to be working on impact litigation in education justice this summer. In addition to working on education cases, this week I am researching state and federal disability protections.

I am a summer law clerk with Public Counsel's Opportunity Under Law Project (OUL). Public Counsel is the nation's largest provider of pro bono legal services, and OUL is the organization's community-driven impact litigation group.

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Update 4:

It is bittersweet to end my summer clerkship with Public Counsel! I was able to work on education and civil rights cases with some of the best impact litigators out there, thanks in part to funding from Equal Justice America.

Update 5:

I am very grateful to Equal Justice America for helping to fund my summer clerkship with Public Counsel. I had many opportunities to learn about impact litigation, education law, disability law, civil rights, legal research, and writing, and much more. This experience is already informing my studies as a 2L and I am eager to continue building my skills to contribute to this important work. If you are inclined to make a donation to Equal Justice America, you can help fund the work of fellows like me supporting vital civil legal aid.