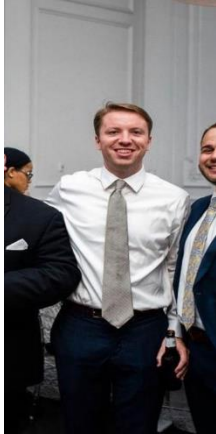




## Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



**Name:** Patrick Murphy

**Law School:** Fordham University School of Law

**Organization:** The Legal Aid Society

---

### Update 1:

Hi Everyone! This summer I am working as an Equal Justice America Fellow, specifically working as a legal intern at the Legal Aid Society's Immigration Law Unit, and as part of my fellowship I will be providing updates on my work throughout the summer, and asking that you help donate to EJA's fundraising page in any way that you can in order to support this great organization! At this point I'm finishing up my second week of work so far, and am mostly working on asylum cases for non-detained individuals. The online nature of the internship has made most client interaction and overall interviewing an over-the-phone process, but I have already gained valuable experience, in addition to going through very informative trainings here at LAS. Looking forward to sharing these updates with you all in the future, and please donate if you can!

---

### Update 2:

Hi Everyone, time for my second update of the summer! Currently I am working on a request for adjustment of status for a former detainee, who is hoping to get his green card. I have been working mostly on organizing declarations from his family members in support of his case, and have been both amazed at the support they have shown for him and extremely saddened by the fear his family has over the possibility of him being deported. The process has been a very humbling one so far, and certainly puts things into perspective in terms of not taking anything good in your life for granted. We are hoping to show that our client is not someone who should be actively prosecuted and that he should not be a priority for deportation, and I am excited to continue working in support of his case by organizing declarations and eventually beginning research into the conditions he would be deported back to in his home country. Also, just a reminder to please donate at the link below if you can!



### **Update 3:**

Hi Everyone, time for another update! Over the past couple weeks, I have been working on a request for asylum for a woman who has been driven out of her country by gang violence and threats. I have so far worked mostly on organizing her own personal declaration in supporting her case, using a translator to understand her story and why she felt like she had no choice but to flee to the US. It was heartbreaking to hear her talk about the atrocities she experienced back in her home country, and makes me wonder how anyone in such a situation could ever actually be denied an opportunity for asylum. We are hoping to show that our client belongs to a particular social group, specifically those who are victims of gang violence, in order to show that her asylum application should be accepted. Interviewing a client firsthand was a very humbling and, at times, very sad process, but was also great experience for me in this field of work. Also, just a reminder to please donate at the link below if you can!

---

### **Entry 4:**

Hi Everyone, time for my last update! Over the past couple weeks, I have been working on a request for asylum for a young college student who is facing removal proceedings. This young man has a full college scholarship and has lived in the United States since he was 8 years old, and it's shocking to imagine someone in his position potentially facing deportation. I have also been working on finalizing the family support declarations for a previously-detained client who is facing deportation. It has been great experience to interview family members and to provide further evidence of why our client should not be deported. This summer experience at the Legal Aid Society has been extremely informative for me, and has added to my eagerness to continue learning about immigration law. Although the work has sometimes been difficult, and I have been involved in some truly tragic interview, this entire experience has been very humbling and rewarding. Finally, one last reminder to please donate at the link below if you can!