



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

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EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Abigail Téllez
LAW SCHOOL	Chicago-Kent College of Law
ORGANIZATION	Legal Aid Society of San Diego

Update 1:

The internship has been going very well so far. I love that I have been interacting with clients one-on-one ever since the first day. The environment is very fast-paced, and I have had to learn quickly, but I feel I am getting the hang of it. The majority of what we do are unlawful detainer responses (eviction defense) and temporary restraining orders. These filings often require us to submit 60 pages worth of forms, with several particularities based on what the court prefers, which varies at each courthouse in San Diego County. I have finally begun doing them on my own without supervision from a more experienced volunteer. I am sometimes the only Spanish speaker in the office, so I often have to stop what I am doing to translate for anyone who needs. Overall, I have learned an incredible amount in only one week, (the first week was training), and I am excited to learn more.

Update 2:

I am happy to report that I have been getting the hang of the lengthy restraining order process, and have gotten great supervision under Spanish-speaking attorneys for how to explain complex legal concepts in Spanish. I am able to get through 2-3 full restraining orders per day, but sometimes fewer because I have to pause my work and translate for others often. Unlawful detainer defense is still difficult for me, and I can usually only get 1-2 done per day. Everything is going well, even on difficult days.

Update 3:

I am very happy with how the internship has been going, and I've been learning a lot. I've gotten a ton of practice explaining legal concepts in Spanish, and my general fluency has improved. I have also gotten much more comfortable explaining court processes outside of the restraining order to our clinic participants and pointing them in the right direction. I've made good friends with all of the interns, and built trusting and close relationships with multiple supervisors. They are people that I feel I can go to for advice on both personal and professional matters. I am



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making great connections and getting great experience interacting with the kinds of clients that I will be serving in the future.

Update 4:

I had a wonderful summer and it would not have been possible without Equal Justice America. I learned so much about how a nonprofit law firm works, and the capacity at which they can operate. I saw the importance of this kind of work in the legal field. I loved getting to interact with so many different kinds people who needed help, and I am very proud of how much my Spanish improved. I learned to work under a variety of supervisors with completely different leadership styles and personalities. Thank you EJA for a great experience.