



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

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EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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Update 1:

Welcome to my first [#EJAFellowUpdate \(Equal Justice America\)](#)! I will be sharing five updates throughout the course of my internship.

My first two weeks at the [ACLU of Michigan](#) have been incredible and I feel fortunate to work alongside spectacular attorneys who are advancing civil rights in Michigan. Interns get a chance to select the projects they assist with. I am assigned to a case pertaining to civil detention and immigration law broadly and have a second assignment concerning use of excessive force by law enforcement officers. Focusing on the latter, I am analyzing the fourth amendment framework federal courts apply in determining whether the use of force police have employed against criminal defendants and protestors was lawful.

I am looking forward to continuing this work and learning more about how to leverage the law to further civil rights and liberties.

Update 2:

[#EJAFellowUpdate 2:](#)

Since my last update, I've been continuing to analyze fourth amendment case law pertaining to law enforcement's use of excessive force. Additionally, as part of a litigation team concerned with the fifth amendment rights of noncitizens, I have been doing a deep dive into procedural due process and immigration exceptionalism case law. Through this, I have learned that Congress has plenary power in implementing legislation on immigration. This means that Congress has the authority to



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enact legislation that severely curbs the constitutional rights of noncitizens with impunity, and Congress has done just this.

Though a vile and unfortunate reality, I look forward to continuing this work and learning how to ensure that the constitutional rights of noncitizens are realized.

Update 3:

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) 3:

For the past two weeks I have been looking into the Young line of cases, where the Supreme Court held that pre-parolees have a liberty interest that requires adequate procedural safeguards before they are re-incarcerated, per the Fifth Amendment. Additionally, I have been doing research pertaining to the Eighth Amendment (barring cruel and unusual punishment), as well as the Michigan Constitution's analogue to the Eighth Amendment, as applied to juveniles.

Finally, I have been calling Hamama Class Members who consist of Iraqi Nationals that were detained by ICE for an extended period of time to inform them that a settlement was reached in *Hamama v. Adducci*. The settlement allows for review of Class Members' custody with the opportunity for release upon adjudication by a Special Master. You can learn more about the settlement here:

<https://lnkd.in/gUVUfSGd>

Update 4:

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) 4:

Since my last update, I have been continuing to research case law pertaining to juvenile punishment.

I also had the opportunity to canvass houses in Flint, Michigan. The Flint Water Crisis was first publicized around ten years ago, however, not much has changed for Flint residents. The City has yet to remediate lead pipes from all homes, making drinking water from the tap a risk, even if it is filtered. The City has stopped providing bottled water free of charge and not many families can afford bottled water. Thus, residents are forced to drink potentially contaminated water. Flint residents continue to be deprived of the most basic human necessity: clean drinking water. Flint is a low-income, predominantly Black community. As such, it is no coincidence that the Flint Water Crisis happened here, rather, Flint, and other predominantly Black and brown communities are by design prone to being disproportionately affected by environmental disasters.

While the actions of the City of Flint (as well as other government officials involved in poisoning Flint) are completely and utterly disgusting, I am inspired by the resilience and grit of organizers in Flint fighting for clean water. They continue to canvass, advocate, and protest because they recognize that



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the City must not get away with poisoning their people. Legal advocates have a lot to learn from the organizers in Flint and I have hope that they will succeed in ensuring that their community has access to safe drinking water.

Update 5:

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) 5:

A couple of weeks ago I wrapped up my internship at the ACLU of Michigan. The work I did included determining the success of a potential excessive force claim, analyzing the constitutionality (per both the Michigan State Constitution and the United States Constitution) of lifetime electronic monitoring as it pertains to juveniles, and performing ad hoc tasks for the Malam litigation team, a case that pertains to the constitutional rights of noncitizens.

I met several social justice advocates during my internship and I learned that there is no room to lose hope. Thus, despite a hostile Supreme Court, despite the increased prevalence of laws aiming to strip people of their right to bodily autonomy, and despite an administration that is complicit in one of the worst human rights crises of our generation, I have hope that our society will change for the better.

I am so grateful to the ACLU of Michigan for hosting me this summer and am also excited to share that I will be continuing working as a Legal Extern for the ACLU of Michigan this upcoming semester.