



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

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EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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LAW SCHOOL	University of Michigan
ORGANIZATION	Civil Criminal Litigation Clinic

Update 1: For the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of working at the University of Michigan Civil Criminal Litigation Clinic under a fellowship from Equal Justice America. I have had the privilege of advocating for low-income individuals from across the county in a variety of different matters, from tenant landlord, to health issues, to issues around guardianship. These experiences have been immensely impactful. Many of these clients would lack access to legal services for not for legal clinics. More than just legal services I am proud to have been a shoulder to lean on, sounding board, and general advocate. Many of our clients have gone through tough situations in and out of the court. It is critical to listen to enable these individuals and be a part of a legal system that works with them, not against them. I am excited for the rest of my summer with the CCLC!

Update 2: For the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of working at the University of Michigan Civil Criminal Litigation Clinic under a fellowship from Equal Justice America. I have had the privilege of advocating for low-income individuals from across the county in a variety of different matters, from tenant landlord, to health issues, to issues around guardianship. Most recently, I had the opportunity to advocate in the court room. This was my first hearing experience. I feel so privileged to not only have the opportunity to learn, but to use this summer to benefit others. In other matters, I recently finished up paper discovery and will soon begin prepping for depositions. I also recently took on a new case where I have the opportunity to advocate on an immigration issue. Can't wait to see what else this summer has in store for me!

Update 3: For the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of working at the University of Michigan Civil Criminal Litigation Clinic under a fellowship from Equal Justice America. I have had the privilege of advocating for low-income individuals from across the county in a variety of



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different matters, from tenant landlord, to health issues, to issues around guardianship. These experiences have been immensely impactful. Most recently, I have had the opportunity to work on immigration matters. It has been intensive informative as I have gain experience in a completely different court system. I have had to navigate a number of issues (such as a paper only filling rule!) but all have been amazing learning opportunities. I am so grateful for the EJA fellowship and the opportunity to help others!

Update 4: For the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of working at the University of Michigan Civil Criminal Litigation Clinic under a fellowship from [Equal Justice America](#). I have had the privilege of advocating for low-income individuals from across the county in a variety of different matters, from tenant landlord, to health issues, to issues around guardianship. These experiences have been immensely impactful. As I begin wrapping up my summer, I get to reflect on how much I have learned. I am so grateful for the opportunity to help others while learning and growing as an attorney and advocate. Most recently, I have had the opportunity to do a number of court hearings. These were very daunting at first but have slowly become less and less stressful. These have been a great opportunity to not just learn from my supervisor, but also from the actions and techniques of opposing counsel. I can't wait to spend the final weeks at the clinic.

Update 5: I am incredibly grateful for the support that Equal Justice America has provided me this summer. My time at the Civil-Criminal Litigation Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School has been both educational and inspirational. Over these few short months, I have been entrusted with a diverse range of projects, encompassing everything from low-income plaintiff civil suits to immigration cases.

Most recently, I concluded a project focused on supporting a housing transition for one client, while simultaneously wrapping up paper discovery for another. With no prior litigation experience, I faced a steep learning curve in navigating court rules and interacting with opposing counsel. This exposure has not only enhanced my understanding of legal processes but has also equipped me with practical skills that are essential for effective advocacy.

Above all else, the most valuable lesson I have learned this summer is the true meaning of being an advocate for my clients. Advocacy transcends mere representation in front of a judge or negotiating with opposing counsel; it is fundamentally about building a genuine connection with your clients. This connection enables me to understand their wishes and aspirations, ensuring that I am aligned with their goals throughout the litigation process.

In this role, I have come to appreciate the importance of true empathy and active listening. By engaging with my clients, I learned to better support their needs and effectively communicate



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their stories. This experience has profoundly impacted my perspective on legal practice, reminding me that the law is not just about rules and procedures, but about people and their lives.

I am truly thankful to Equal Justice America for this opportunity. The skills and insights I have gained will undoubtedly shape my future career as a compassionate and dedicated advocate for those in need. This summer has reinforced my commitment to pursuing a path in public interest law, where I can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.