



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

SUMMER 2024

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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| ORGANIZATION | East Bay Community Law Center |

Update 1: During my first three weeks as a law student intern with East Bay Community Law Center's Immigration Practice, I have already garnered so many unexpected lessons! I feel very lucky to be working directly with my client and building relationships, which is a skill that is not taught within our classrooms. Within these early weeks, I've gotten the chance to develop trauma-informed lawyering skills that are so essential to the humanitarian immigration law practice. The stories within U-visa and asylum cases must be dealt with the utmost care, and I feel very honored to be entrusted with my clients' legal issues that have such a huge impact on the trajectory of their lives. So far, I really appreciate EBCLC's hands-on clinic approach and how much trust they place on us as law students to navigate case management. Simply put, I feel like I'm really learning how to be a lawyer!

I am very thankful for Equal Justice America's support this summer.

Update 2: This past month East Bay Community Law Center's Immigration Practice has given me such a great opportunity to work with asylum seekers and U-visa cases! Throughout this summer, I have learned to navigate the complications of responding to Requests for Evidence. EBCLC's clinical teaching and heavy case management approach has taught me to be creative and flexible in piecing together strong applications/petitions regardless of any barriers to gaining evidence. Moreover, I am so grateful for the chance to build strong relationships with clients and gain incredible insight on trauma-informed lawyering.

Update 3: Can't believe I am already at my last week at East Bay Community Law Center! I am so thankful for this opportunity and all that it has taught me about humanitarian immigration law. As I am wrapping up my time here, I am finalizing a RFE response for a U-visa application. This



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has involved writing a declaration, writing a cover letter, and, my favorite part, getting to know my client and working with them to build and strengthen their application.

Update 4: Although my summer at EBCLC has come to an end, I have taken these past two weeks to reflect on my experience. I am unbelievably grateful for this experience with EBCLC's immigration unit as it has taught me how to be creative with solving clients' issues and attentive to clients' personal and legal needs. I am excited to apply the skills I have learned this summer into my future experiences.

Update 5: It has been a few weeks now since my summer internship with East Bay Community Law Center's Immigration Practice. Now, as a student in the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic at UC Law SF, I am so thankful for my time with EBCLC because I am now applying the direct service skills I learned over the summer to the clinic.

Upon reflection, EBCLC was a wonderful opportunity to work directly with a client in creating and submitting a response to an RFE for a U-Visa. In building my client's cases, I learned how to brainstorm legal arguments that involve difficult facts that may work against my client. Moreover, I learned how to tell my client's story through declarations and briefs, that truly capture who they are as not just applicants for certain visas, but also as human beings who are inherently deserving of safety and relief.

Simply put, this internship shaped the idea of what kind of attorney and advocate I aspire to be.