



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

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EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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ORGANIZATION	NAACP-Legal Defense and Educational Fund

Update 1: I am beyond grateful to spend my summer as a Litigation Intern with the NAACP-Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. in New York City as an [Equal Justice America](#) Summer Fellow! So far, I've learned a lot about voting rights and how to litigate access to the ballot box. Even though it is early in my internship, I am eager to see how much more I will learn. As an EJA Fellow, I have been given a generous amount of summer funding to live and work in New York City. I am very grateful to EJA for investing in my education and future. For those that would like to contribute to my funding (and donate to an amazing organization that invests in the future of public service attorneys), please consider donating!

Update 2: As we celebrate our country's Independence Day, let us not forget that July 4th, 1776, was not a day of liberation for all. There was still work to be done after 1776, and there is still work to be done today.

Since my first EJA Fellow update, I've been able to work on more criminal justice issues. During the process of helping to draft a clemency petition for our client, I remembered how far we have left to go in protecting the civil rights of all people. Fortunately, the Legal Defense Fund has so many brilliant and talented attorneys fighting to make liberation for all a reality.

Update 3: I did not post this update because it had information about a conference that I attended as an intern, and it was encouraged for us to not post anything about it on social media. However, I discussed the Capital Airlie Conference I attended in July during my third update. This was an amazing experience because I gained profound knowledge about capital punishment! The experience of attending this conference as an intern was invaluable!



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Update 4: I am elated to announce that on Friday I completed my summer internship with the NAACP-Legal Defense & Educational Fund! I learned so much about how to litigate voting rights cases, attended a conference regarding capital punishment, and sharpened my research and writing skills. Thank you to the Legal Defense Fund, my internship coordinators, fellow interns, and [Equal Justice America](#) for this amazing opportunity. I can't wait to start school in a couple of weeks to finish my third and FINAL year of law school!

Update 5: Overall, I am extremely grateful that EJA invested in my future and educational enrichment. My summer internship at the NAACP-Legal Defense & Educational Fund truly shaped my career for the better. My goal while working for LDF was to try out two different areas of civil rights work to better understand which area I would like to dedicate the first parts of my career toward. I worked on both voting rights issues, as well as criminal legal system work. I realized that voting rights is very important, but not something I felt especially called to doing. I realized the mass injustices found in the criminal legal system was deserving of my full attention. However, there are so many different aspects of the criminal legal system that need reform. I realized while interning this summer that fighting against the death penalty is what I feel most excited about. As a result, I worked on a clemency petition for a client in North Carolina, along with several North Carolina organizations, all fighting to protect his humanity. One organization in particular caught my attention, so I reached out to them to learn more about what they do. After witnessing firsthand their care and attention to their clients, I asked them if I could be a post-graduate fellow for them in fall 2025. Fortunately, they said yes! I also got the opportunity to meet other capital defenders at the Capital Airlie Conference, and made several connections across the country. As I continue to grow in my legal advocacy and hone my skills, I know that those connections will be very useful. Thank you so much EJA for your investment! I know that I would have had a very different experience this summer trying to juggle giving my full attention to the meaningful work my organization was doing, but still trying to navigate paying two rents while working an unpaid internship (especially when one of those rents is in New York City). I am also grateful for the EJA alumni network that I now have access to!