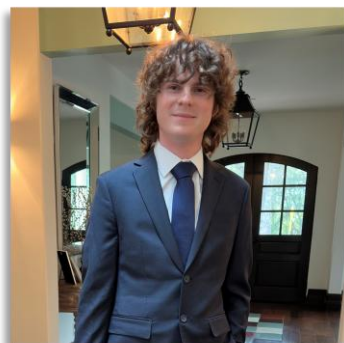




EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2025

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Max Gildred
LAW SCHOOL	Boston University School of Law
ORGANIZATION	Boston University Civil Litigation & Justice Program

Final Reflection:

First of all, I would like to thank all the wonderful attorneys at Boston University and Greater Boston Legal Services for all their wisdom, guidance, and patience over the last few months. I have learned so much during my tenure at the Boston University Civil Litigation & Justice Program, both in terms of practical legal skills and broadened perspective to the realities of legal aid.

I think back to the beginning of summer—which feels like an eternity ago—and recall how nervous I was to make a client call or write a notice of appearance. There was so much I did not understand about the norms of communicating as an attorney, whether it was with clients, opposing counsel, the court, or third parties. However, through countless opportunities to practice each of these interactions through all manner of mediums, I feel significantly more confident in my ability to one day practice as an attorney.

I have also learned so much about legal aid and the significant barriers to justice that exist for populations that are often unconsidered in our legal system. I have had the opportunity to work with clients who were elderly, disabled, or required the assistance of a translator, and learned just how difficult it is to navigate the litigation experience. The well-being of others is deeply important to me, and I make great strides to accommodate those who need it however they can—even if I have to run halfway around Boston to hand-deliver a document to a client.

I was particularly touched when a translator I had worked with on several occasions had taken a moment out of her day to let me know that she appreciated how I took my time to speak in short, clear, simple sentences. She said that my intentional cadence made the translation experience much easier for herself and much more understandable for the client. I had recognized early in my internship the invaluable work of translators in legal services, and it was moving to learn that my efforts to be accommodating had been well received.



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Although my internship has come to a close, it is only the first step in my legal career. I am so grateful to be able to have worked on so many varied and challenging cases, and I hope to use these newfound skills and wisdom to pursue a career in public interest litigation in the future!