



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2025

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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ORGANIZATION	Legal Services NYC, Right to Counsel Unit

Final Reflection:

This summer, with the immense support of Equal Justice America, I had the incredible opportunity to intern with Legal Services NYC's Housing Unit (LSNYC). LSNYC provides direct legal services to individuals and families facing eviction across Manhattan. As an intern, I worked closely with my supervisors, learning the ins and outs of the complex world of housing law while providing support to New Yorkers seeking to remain in their homes.

Over the course of the summer, I shadowed court appearances and assisted my supervisors with their casework by compiling research, memos, and motion drafts. After a brief training and observation period, my supervisors assigned me my own clients and caseload, and I took the lead on managing a few cases. This allowed me to build close relationships with clients, learn about their lives and goals, perform research and develop strategies, and devise creative arguments to support their needs. By the end of the summer, I had witnessed and played a small role in helping multiple clients avoid eviction and obtain the financial support necessary to remain in their homes without fear of being uprooted.

In my ten weeks at LSNYC, I learned a huge amount about housing issues in New York while honing my legal writing, research, and interviewing skills. I loved every moment of this incredibly intense and stimulating work. But what moved me most of all was working with the clients themselves. Each and every person told us a unique and deeply personal story, trusting us to support them through intensely difficult and complex crises. It was an honor to play a small part in helping them achieve some form of safety, stability, and justice.

When I applied to law school, I knew I wanted to work with low-income New Yorkers and to use the legal system to address their needs, but I was not sure how best to achieve this goal within the vast world of public interest law. My internship with LSNYC opened my eyes to the complex



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and fascinating field of housing law, and I am now planning to pursue a career in eviction defense after graduation.

Equal Justice America provided me the financial and structural support I needed to spend my summer interning with LSNYC. EJA's generous contribution allowed me to focus all my energy into learning how to protect New Yorkers against eviction and gaining the critical tools central to public interest lawyering. And on a personal level, EJA's support enabled me to envision a future career as a housing lawyer in New York City. I am immensely grateful.