



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2025

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Ben Bildsten
LAW SCHOOL	Chicago Kent
ORGANIZATION	Legal Aid Chicago

Final Reflection:

Over the past several weeks, I've had the privilege of working in the Housing Practice Group, where I've been using my 711 student license to represent clients in court. Already, I've researched and written motions to dismiss, filed motions for preliminary injunctions, and argued to have wrongful evictions sealed from clients' records. Each step has been an incredible learning opportunity and, more importantly, a chance to help protect the housing rights of low-income renters in Chicago.

This experience builds on my prior work in public interest law, including with the Cook County Public Defender's Office in the Felony Trial Division and with Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, where I focused on foreclosure defense and supported pro bono attorneys. Before law school, I spent several years as a Tenant Advocate with HOME Line in Minnesota, advising thousands of tenants on landlord-tenant law and helping them fight illegal evictions. All of these experiences have reinforced my commitment to ensuring that every person—regardless of income—has access to justice.

I'm deeply grateful to Equal Justice America for making this fellowship possible, as many public interest internships are unpaid. Their support allows law students like me to gain critical courtroom experience while serving the community.

If you believe everyone deserves access to legal services, especially those who can't afford them, I hope you'll consider supporting this important mission by making a donation. Your generosity makes this work possible, and I truly appreciate it.