



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2025

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Bree Calvert
LAW SCHOOL	New York Law School
ORGANIZATION	The Children's Law Center

Final Reflection:

My time at The Children's Law Center in the Bronx has been both meaningful and transformative. Over the course of my internship, I have had the privilege of working on the trial team as an Attorney for the Child, advocating for children's voices in custody and visitation matters. I have attended and participated in a wide range of proceedings, including hearings on Orders to Show Cause, Writs of Habeas Corpus, inquests, pre-trial conferences, and trials. I have appeared on the record to state the child's position, prepared and argued a summation during a trial, and drafted motions on behalf of clients.

One particularly memorable moment was when I prepared extensively for an inquest, only for it to turn into a trial after an absent party unexpectedly appeared. With both parties proceeding pro se, I quickly adapted my inquest questions into cross-examination questions and was able to conduct the examination on the record. This experience reinforced the importance of preparation, adaptability, and clear advocacy in the courtroom.

Beyond litigation skills, this internship has deepened my understanding of the real-world impact of family law. Many of the families we serve face significant socioeconomic challenges, and the cases often involve complex, emotionally charged circumstances. As someone who once had an attorney fighting for my best interests as a child in the court system, being on the other side of this process, now advocating for children in similar situations, has been profoundly rewarding. I leave this experience with strengthened advocacy skills, a deeper commitment to this field, and an even greater passion for ensuring that every child's voice is heard.