



# EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

**Summer 2025**

## EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	Legal Aid Society of San Diego

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### Final Reflection:

I have finished up my internship at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. I had an absolutely amazing experience this summer that has only made me more excited to get out into the legal world and use the skills I've gained to help others get access to the justice they desperately need. For this last post, I'd like to reflect on the experience and let y'all know how important it was to be and to those I was able to help.

As a reminder, my work at LASSD consisted of helping clinic participants represent themselves in court in a few specific areas: eviction defense (called unlawful detainers in California), restraining orders, and name and gender marker changes. For those without a legal background, having to deal with an eviction or the process of getting a restraining order can be incredibly daunting and overwhelming. At our self-help clinics, we would be able to help walk people through the process of filing a restraining order or an answer to an eviction proceeding filed against them. Without us, in some cases, people would be left incredibly lost and potentially defaulted in eviction cases or left in a dangerous situation without a restraining order. I was so proud to be able to come home from the clinic every day knowing that something I did personally helped one of our clinic participants, potentially saving them from a default or serious bodily injury.

There are some restraining order cases, specifically, that stick with me and make me so grateful that I was able to do this job. These were people in seriously dangerous and terrifying situations, and I had the opportunity to walk them through the legal process that would ensure their and often their children's safety from an abuser. This kind of work is what I went to law school for and I am so happy to have had the experience to do it. I can't wait to get out there into the world and do more when I get my J.D., and this experience with LASSD has let me strengthen



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the skills that will enable me to do so. I am so grateful to LASSD for giving me such a great experience and giving me the opportunity to be mentored by so many amazing people. My fellow interns were also amazing, and I hope to keep up those relationships into the future. However, none of this would be possible without the financial support from the The University of Texas School of Law and the Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship, so I want to thank them as well for their support! Thank you everyone that made this summer possible and I hope to update you all soon on my future public interest exploits.