



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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ORGANIZATION	East Bay Community Law Center

Update 1: I am excited to share that this summer, I was fortunate to receive the Equal Justice America Fellowship. As part of the fellowship, I'll be sharing a few updates throughout the summer about the work I am doing at the East Bay Community Law Center. I am currently working in the Education Defense and Justice for Youth Clinic, where I have already had the opportunity to assist with matters involving juvenile record sealing and school expulsion defense for youth. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue this work and look forward to sharing more updates throughout the summer. I am also very thankful to EJA for supporting public interest work and helping expand access to justice.

Update 2: As part of my Equal Justice America Fellowship, I'll be sharing a few updates throughout the summer about the work I am doing at the East Bay Community Law Center. I am excited to share that this summer, I was fortunate to receive the Equal Justice America Fellowship. As part of the fellowship, I'll be sharing a few updates throughout the summer about the work I am doing at the East Bay Community Law Center. In the last couple weeks, I have had exciting opportunities to engage in direct client work, such as interviewing, and watch live hearings on record sealing cases that I've assisted on. I have also gotten more exposure to expulsion defense cases, getting to work on hearing preparation with the team, including developing case theory and collecting evidence. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue this work and look forward to sharing more updates throughout the summer.

Update 3: As part of my Equal Justice America Fellowship, I'll be sharing a few updates throughout the summer about the work I am doing at the East Bay Community Law Center. In the last month and a half, I have had exciting opportunities to engage in direct client work, such as interviewing, and to watch live hearings on record-sealing cases. I have also gained more exposure to expulsion defense cases, working on hearing preparation with the team, including



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developing case theory, collecting evidence, and preparing statements and examinations. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue this work and look forward to sharing a couple more updates as the summer wraps up.

Update 4: As my internship ends at the East Bay Community Law Center, I've been able to reflect on the incredible learning opportunities provided to me this summer. From learning about the intricacies in educational law, how to communicate with young clients, learning about policy advocacy and engaging in the community, and most of all building a network of likeminded colleagues. I'm so thankful for this summer.

Final Reflection: This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to work at the East Bay Community Law Center in the Education Defense and Justice for Youth Division. Through my work, I learned so much about educational laws and policies as well as more about the East Bay community through my work with students. I gained knowledge not just about the legal work but also the holistic advocacy that comes into play when working with younger clients, including social work and other factors impacting them.

I also had the opportunity to work on record sealings for younger clients and helped draft motions for record sealing. I learned about different methods of communicating with clients and working with them in cases where a lot of childhood trauma was often involved. I really appreciated the fact that I was able to incorporate my prior training in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as well as gain new interviewing skills.

On the education defense side, my co-intern and I prepped an entire case for hearing, including opening and closing statements, direct examinations, and cross-examinations. I was able to rely on skills gained from my time on Trial Team and adapt those to administrative hearings. I saw a lot of professional growth in myself this summer as I ventured to learn about different areas of the legal system that I was unfamiliar with previously.

I also had the opportunity to do some policy work, including drafting a packet to answer commonly asked questions by parents whose children might be involved in school disciplinary issues and the resources available to them. My various responsibilities and assignments this summer deepened my legal research skills as well as my ability to comprehend policies and laws.

I am also thankful to EJA for supporting public interest work and helping expand access to justice. If you would like to support this fellowship and help me and other students pursue public service opportunities, please consider donating.