



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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LAW SCHOOL	Boston College Law School
ORGANIZATION	Greater Boston Legal Services – Consumer Rights Unit

Update 1:

I started as a Consumer Rights Intern at Greater Boston Legal Services!

So far, I have conducted research in support of a tenants' rights class action, assisted attorneys representing clients in small claims court, and completed trainings on consumer law.

Update 2:

Since my last post, I have begun representing clients in debt collection cases in small claims court. I will also be encouraging Mass legislators to pass the Road to Opportunity Act next week.

Update 3:

At GBLS, I talked to staffers at the State House about passing the Road to Opportunity Act. I drafted demand letters to help consumers harmed by unfair business practices.

I will represent clients in small claims court next week.

Update 4:

Over the last two weeks, I completed my first solo representation defending a client in a debt collection case and researched case law on unfair business practices.

Final Reflection:

This summer, my experience as a Consumer Rights Intern at Greater Boston Legal Services gave me a firsthand look at how legal representation can make a meaningful difference in clients' everyday lives. I worked with low-income clients facing a range of challenges, including debt collection, bankruptcy, scams, and economic abuse. Along the way, I conducted legal research,



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drafted demand letters addressing unfair business practices, assisted with client intake, and spoke with Massachusetts State House staffers about the Road to Opportunity Act.

The most meaningful part of my semester, however, was representing clients through GBLS's Lawyer for the Day program. I helped individuals facing lawsuits over outstanding credit card debt, including by representing clients in debt collection cases in small claims court. Over the course of the summer, I completed my first solo representation and had the opportunity to help clients secure dismissals and reductions in the amounts they allegedly owed.

These cases also made the importance of legal representation especially tangible to me. Many of the claims were brought by debt buyers that had purchased large pools of debt and were attempting to collect with limited documentation or evidence. For clients, navigating the legal system and challenging those claims could be intimidating, particularly when the financial consequences of an adverse judgment were significant. It was rewarding to help clients understand their options, raise appropriate defenses, and achieve outcomes that could make a real difference in their financial lives.

Other moments reinforced the human side of consumer advocacy. Through client intake, I spoke with people trying to navigate difficult and often stressful financial situations, including many elderly individuals who had experienced bank fraud. Even when there was no simple solution, helping clients understand their legal options and feel heard demonstrated an important lesson: effective advocacy begins with listening carefully to the person behind the legal problem & centering their needs.

This experience strengthened my interest in public interest law and showed me how legal skills can be used to address economic inequality at both the individual and systemic levels. Whether researching a tenants' rights class action, advocating for legislative reform, or representing a single client in court, I saw different ways lawyers can work toward the same goal of expanding access to justice. I leave the summer more confident in my ability to work directly with clients and more committed to a career focused on economic justice. I also hope to remain involved with GBLS in the future by volunteering with the Lawyer for the Day program during the school year.