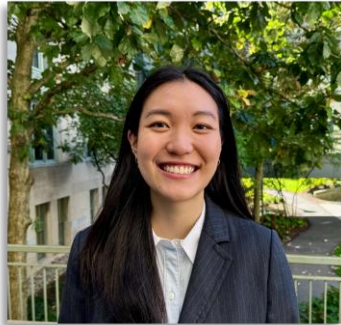




EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



NAME	Victoria Choe
LAW SCHOOL	Harvard Law School
ORGANIZATION	Legal Aid Chicago

Update 1:

I am really enjoying my time at Legal Aid Chicago; In two weeks, I have drafted motions, legal memos, attended a hearing, and assisted a client in getting an emergency order of protection and a firearms warrant.

I am really happy with the supervision I am receiving as well. My supervisors are constantly checking in, making sure I have interesting assignments. I am incredibly grateful and look forward to the rest of the summer!

Update 2:

I work in the Children and Families Unit, and I've learned so much about the legal remedies available for clients experiencing domestic violence, assault, and investigations with DCFS.

I have also learned how to advocate on their behalf, speak to them with trauma-informed care, and listen to their needs.

Update 3:

Very proud of the work I've done so far. I've drafted three memos and have conducted several client intakes and drafted lots of petitions and hearing outlines. I have a good sense of what children and family law is like and hope to pursue it after graduating law school. In the remainder of my time here I am going to write two more memos and attend a few hearings with my supervising attorney.



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Update 4:

Now that my time here is coming to an end, I think I've realized how much I want to do work in legal services after law school. Family law is definitely an area that I would like to work in, because I like working with families and issues that are incredibly personal. It's challenging but also makes the work all the more meaningful. I've also improved my research and writing skills, which has made me want to become a better researcher and writer.

Final Reflection:

I learned that I like legal aid – I like working with clients, going to hearing, and doing legal research and writing. Hearings are scary, but it's a challenge I would like to step up to. What's difficult is that a lot of remedies in family law/DV are just temporary band aids. They don't work to provide lasting healing people need. For instance, an order of protection generally only lasts for two years and it's simply a deterrent without actually guaranteeing any form of protection. But, these are the kinds of protections the legal system offers and I can do my best as a lawyer to help my client obtain them. Areas I would like to improve in are research and writing. I also want to learn negotiation skills, especially when it comes to working with my own client and the opposing party. I hoped to work more on DCFS cases, but I am grateful I gained experience in family law matters. If I do family law going forward, I think I will still be interested more in family defense. Overall, super grateful for my time at Legal Aid Chicago and everything I learned.