



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

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LAW SCHOOL	Northeastern University School of Law
ORGANIZATION	Greater Boston Legal Services – Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services

Update 1: I'm excited to share that I've started my Equal Justice America fellowship this summer. I will be working with the Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services Office at Greater Boston Legal Services to support elders facing eviction. I'm so grateful to Equal Justice America for making this opportunity possible through this summer fellowship, as most legal internships are unpaid.

Update 2: I am entering my second month as a legal intern for Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, and I continue to be inspired by the tirelessness and professionalism of all my colleagues. Equal Justice America is supporting my internship, and their work supports legal aid advocacy across the country.

Update 3: I am so grateful for my time working at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services this summer! I have been learning so much about the legal services network of the greater Boston area, and I am thrilled to be a small part of the many efforts addressing Boston's housing crisis.

Update 4: Next week is my last week working for Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services this summer! I have greatly valued my experiences here and the mentorship of so many talented lawyers. My work this summer is partially supported by Equal Justice America. If you would like to contribute to their work, you can donate.

Final Reflection: In the course of my summer internship at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services (CASLS), I screened and interviewed dozens of clients in English and Spanish; I helped draft settlement agreements in eviction cases; I prepared petitions to seal eviction records, MassHealth fair hearing request forms, and applications for harassment prevention orders; I



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prepared evidence packets for Section 8 termination hearings; I advocated for clients with opposing parties; I informed callers about their rights at Case Management Conferences; and I conducted legal research for several cases, including the case of an elder with uncertain immigration status seeking long-term care benefits under state-funded Medicaid. I loved getting to know clients in the course of cases and investigations.

My work supported the rights of elders in CASLS's service area facing eviction or discharge from long-term care. I learned about the many protections that Massachusetts offers low-income renters and disabled elders, and I also learned about the many ways that under existing law, low-income elders and disabled folks are at risk of houselessness. I am proud to have helped settle several eviction and long-term care discharge cases. My time at CASLS showed me how difference legal advocacy can make in these types of cases-- opposing counsel often agreed to reasonably negotiate cases once CASLS began corresponding on behalf of a client.

I also learned how much persistence and fortitude legal aid work requires. Legal aid lawyers have to track and meet answer and appeal rights deadlines, for dozens of cases, while serving clients who often lack complete information about their own cases. Working under these conditions is relentlessly stressful. I found the support of my supervisor and colleagues to be essential for avoiding burnout. I am thankful to EJA for this source of Fellowship funding, because several of the interns in my cohort received EJA funds to support their summer work, and I benefitted from the camaraderie of every intern in the CASLS office this summer. In this political environment of decreasing funds for legal aid work, every source of additional income for interns is essential, and my summer experience showed me that interns are integral to the continuing work of legal aid.