



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

Summer 2026

EJA FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



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Update 1:

I have had an amazing start to my summer at the Legal Defense Fund. The office location is fantastic and overlooks all downtown Atlanta. Additionally, I feel like I've already received several substantive assignments. After a quick start to onboarding, I was already matched with a team working on an impactful and contemporaneous issue. As part of that team, I helped review several hours of legislative history footage, compile evidence on social media, and conduct a rough legal analysis to help create a memo. Significant parts of that memo then made it into the complaint itself. It feels great to take what I learned at Michigan Law in legal writing and reasoning and then begin applying it to a tangible work product. I feel extremely grateful for all the support that has and is being provided by Equal Justice America.

Update 2:

This week, I was able to work on a complaint that is imminently getting filed as well as taking the first draft at a motion. My favorite part of the week was meeting clients for the first time. I feel like I am learning a lot about the litigation process and feel very fortunate to be working at the LDF on the matters that I am.

Update 3:

The past couple weeks were intense, and it was interesting to see how fast work gets shuffled and changes hands just prior to the commencement of litigation. I enjoyed seeing how collaboration with co-counsel works from one organization holding the pen to the role other organizations play in refining the document before filing. The complaint was filed and I enjoyed seeing how the matter was picked up almost immediately by media.



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Update 4:

As my time at LDF nears a close, I got to do significant work helping draft and prepare an amicus support memo we are sending out to several organizations on a matter before the Eleventh Circuit. I am happy I had the opportunity to work on two matters on opposite ends of the litigation process. I was also able to meaningfully contribute to drafting a brief opposing a motion the other side is making. I think that experience has been one of the highlights and has also taught me a lot about how important every motion, even non-dispositive ones, are for the success of a case.

Final Reflection:

I am beyond grateful for the support EJA provided to make such an excellent summer a reality. Over the summer, I was able to work on a matter that made national headlines and see some of my own work in the filed complaint. My legal writing and research skills have developed leaps and bounds, and I relished the opportunity to learn from several excellent attorneys at LDF. I got to see how different lawyers write and analyze problems and how teams think critically and strategically about ongoing litigation. From the start of my internship focused on drafting research memos, to supporting fact development, the drafting of the complaint, and motions post-filing, I feel like I had a great opportunity to see what the commencement and beginning of litigation looks like. Language and civil procedure rules that were once confusing, make much more sense in context. On another matter on appeal, I got to do detailed research in preparation for an opening brief on a matter before the Eleventh Circuit. On this matter, I was able to deeply analyze case law across several circuits.

I was also able to join several meetings focused on amicus strategy. I got to see what both internal and external collaborations look like in litigation, which is something not often taught in law school. Perhaps my favorite part of the internship was simply getting the chance to shadow brilliant attorneys and see them think strategically about how to best advocate for their clients. I got to see how media strategy and community organizing intersect with litigation to form the strongest strategy for clients. I also enjoyed feeling truly part of the team and becoming an expert myself on niche topics. The internship coordinators at LDF were also amazing at helping create a welcoming environment where we had the opportunity to learn from several attorneys in different practice groups. This summer has been truly excellent and makes me extremely excited about my career post-law school. As I return to law school in the fall, I feel like I understand what it means to be a lawyer for the people to a significantly greater extent.