

# ALEXIS E. APPLGATE

Dan Ruben  
Executive Director  
Equal Justice America  
Building II - Suite 204  
13540 East Boundary Road  
Midlothian, VA 23112

August 31, 2012

Dear Mr. Rubin:

My fellowship in the Legal Mobilization Project of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law this summer has been a wonderful learning experience. As a result of the devastating impact of the foreclosure crisis on low-income homeowners and communities of color, the Lawyers' Committee developed a special project focused on issues related to the foreclosure crisis and specifically the . Therefore, I spent much of my summer researching issues implicated in complaints being developed against individuals perpetrating illegal scams against vulnerable homeowners seeking loan modifications.

The Lawyers Committee along with several partners created the Loan Modification Scam Prevention Network to give homeowners an opportunity to report scammers and strengthen the fight against the loan modification scammers. As part of this project, the staff compiled information from homeowner complaints to develop litigation against prolific scammers in various states across the country. As part of the team developing these complaints, the most rewarding work I completed this summer was an in depth research project on the effect of arbitration clauses within loan modification contracts as well as direct interviews with homeowners who fell victim to these scams.

During my work this summer, I did realize that I enjoyed being involved in the litigation projects, but I most enjoyed the direct client interactions.. Throughout these cases, I had the opportunity to perform detailed legal research and participate in stragedy meetings as a true member of the team. However, those days where I was given the opportunity to interview victims of these scams and get information about their experiences were my favorite days.

This realization has made me even more committed to a career in public interest law. I truly appreciate Equal Justice America's mission. Without this funding, I would not have been able to do this fellowship and discover a true passion for litigating on behalf of clients who may not otherwise be able to obtain counsel. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Thank you again,

Alexis E. Applegate  
Boston College Law School  
Class of 2013



Mr. Dan Ruben  
Executive Director  
Equal Justice America  
13540 East Boundary Road, Building II  
Suite 204  
Midlothian, Virginia 23112

August 29, 2012

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am writing to provide an evaluation of Alexis Applegate's work as a summer 2012 intern with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington, DC. Alexis served as a legal intern in the Lawyers' Committee's Legal Mobilization Project, which spans a broad range of subject-matter areas, including Election Protection, loan modification scam prevention, and certain voting rights cases. Alexis excelled in working on various projects in these areas.

In particular, Alexis provided significant assistance related to our loan modification scam cases. We entrusted Alexis with the task of researching an area that is both critical to many of those cases and extremely complex: the enforceability of arbitration clauses in contracts whereby homeowners hire companies and individuals to perform loan modification services. As scam operations have become more and more sophisticated recently, their contracts now often include mandatory arbitration clauses, which can provide complications to lawsuits when there are a large number of scam victims who each suffered a relatively small financial injury. Alexis tackled this complicated area of law and provided guidance on the issue that has proved helpful. She presented this information to the entire loan modification scam group here, and she did an excellent job responding to difficult questions posed by attorneys who were motivated to attack some of her conclusions, despite being asked to make the presentation on short notice.

Alexis appears particularly enthusiastic when dealing directly with the public. As part of Election Protection, she was comfortable responding to questions from voters nationwide concerning their right to vote—no easy task in light of all of the new voting laws enacted recently. Additionally, she performed interviews of homeowners who had been victimized by loan modification scammers, and she was adept at performing those interviews and obtaining the most important information about the alleged scams.

Alexis also did good work on some smaller research topics, including the procedural requirements for asset freezes, ethical responsibilities of attorneys with regard to

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settlement agreements that restrict the rights of other attorneys, veil piercing and alter ego liability, and the legislative progress of the California Homeowners' Bill of Rights. She thoroughly and effectively completed each of these projects.

Alexis' work, taken together provides the following picture of her as a soon-to-be lawyer.

Alexis has a tremendous legal mind. She is excellent at thinking through legal issues, discussing them critically, and striving to be thorough in her analysis and coverage of an issue. Although Alexis was passionate about helping our clients, she did not let her passion cloud her judgment, as she would lay out the strengths and weaknesses of arguments on a particular issue.

Alexis is resourceful in her research, and seeks out creative solutions to problems presented. She thoroughly researches issues and diligently looks for (and finds) new resources beyond the traditional.

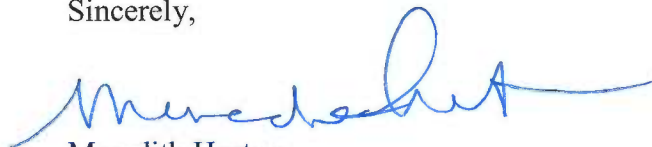
Alexis worked hard to improve her legal writing over the course of the summer, and she was successful in doing so. In response to some criticism about the concision of her writing, she took the advice to heart and created subsequent work product that eliminated the problem.

Alexis has very good work habits. She is mature, detail-oriented, and on more than one occasion took the initiative to look into an issue that was related to our work, though not directly a part of her assignment. The results of those initiatives were valuable to our team. She is able to work independently, but seek out guidance when needed.

Finally, Alexis is an enjoyable person to be around and work with. She is genuinely interested in doing a good job, and she is positive and receptive when given feedback. In short, Alexis was a terrific intern – very personable, mature, and dedicated. Her tenacity and perseverance through challenging assignments and her ability to juggle multiple projects and supervisors during the summer were most impressive.

This evaluation reflects input from my colleagues and our consensus that Alexis made meaningful contributions to our work this summer. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (202) 662-8390 or [mhorton@lawyerscommittee.org](mailto:mhorton@lawyerscommittee.org).

Sincerely,



Meredith Horton  
Counsel, Legal Mobilization Project  
Co-Coordinator, Legal Internship Program