

July 26, 2016

Equal Justice America  
Dan Ruben  
Executive Director  
13540 E Boundary Rd.  
Midlothian, VA 23112

**Re: EJA Fellowship Questionnaire**

Dear Dan,

I am writing to you regarding my experience as a Law Student Intern at Greater Boston Legal Services. During my time there, I was introduced to various types of legal and social issues affecting the Greater Boston community. I provided advice, service, as well as representation for clients in areas of welfare, immigration, family, and employment law. It was an incredibly rewarding experience.

In welfare law, I helped a client that was applying for Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled, and Children (EAEDC), a cash assistance program provided by the state of Massachusetts. As he was limited English proficient, he ran into problems with his application as they only sent him notices in English and repeatedly asked for verification of the same documents. His case manager at the Department of Transitional Assistance was also condescending and rude. Helping him with his application made me realize that I was not only preparing his application but also advocating for his rights, because the government was simply not on his side.

In immigration law, I did research and writing for a number of cases and also compiled supporting documents for a T visa application, as the client and his family I was working with were victims of human trafficking. My client was fraudulently induced to sell all his belongings in his home country for an alleged job opportunity in the United States, and was brought here to work for 16-18 hours a day with no pay. The trafficker also limited their food and usage of the bathroom. It was devastating to hear their story, but knowing that they have since escaped and we are now helping them to settle in the United States brings me tremendous joy. It was an incredible experience to learn about their story and prepare their application.

In family law, I provided brief advice to a number of clients as well as prepared my supervising attorney for her trial, with a case involving modification of child support. Her client was a victim of domestic violence and mother of two kids that she had with the abuser. During their divorce, the abuser had lied to the judge and stated that he was unemployed and had little to no income. Our client, receiving only a minimal amount of child support, then sues to modify the amount. My role in that case was to review and analyze documents we received from subpoenas and estimate the amount of income he received in the form of deposits. It was truly a learning experience as I got to see how an attorney would strategize and prepare evidence for trial. As the

case settled with our client receiving three times the amount of child support than before, I am honored to be able to play a part in that success.

In employment law, I drafted a demand letter for a client, who wasn't being paid his wages, and also researched and prepared clients for a number of unemployment insurance hearings. I also fully represented a client at her unemployment insurance hearing to appeal a denial of her benefits. My client was a personal care assistant who left the job as a result of not being paid her wages on time and not being paid the right amount of wages. As her resignation was due to good cause, I advocated and argued for her rights at her hearing. It was disheartening to hear that she stayed at a job that ultimately did not work for her, but I'm glad that I got the opportunity to do what I could do to help her situation now.

Overall, my internship at Greater Boston Legal Services was absolutely rewarding, as I learned about both legal issues that arise as well as the social issues that my clients and the community face. I'm still in awe of this opportunity to have worked for them and I am so thankful for Equal Justice America to have provided me with this fellowship.

Sincerely,

Junshi Lu  
Boston College Law School  
Class of 2018



August 15, 2016

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

**Re: Evaluation for JUNSHI LU for the Equal Justice America Fellowship**

Dear Dan Ruben,

I am very pleased to submit an evaluation of Junshi Lu's Equal Justice America Fellowship. I have known Junshi since May 2016, when he interned with the Asian Outreach Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services. Greater Boston Legal Services is the largest provider of free civil legal aid in New England, representing clients in the areas of housing, employment, family, immigration, and welfare law. I am an attorney in the Asian Outreach Unit, which serves Asian immigrant clients with linguistic, cultural, and/or other barriers to accessing the legal system.

During Junshi's summer internship, he spent 35 hours per week working in AOU. Every day, he traveled from Boston College Law School campus to Boston to ensure that low-income immigrants had meaningful access to legal services. He met with clients, conducted intakes, and assisted clients on a variety of legal matters, including family law, employment law, and housing law. Junshi has strong research and writing skills, and is very passionate about helping others. He used his cultural and language skills to develop a trusting rapport with our clients, which is critical for us to identify potential legal handles to improving their lives.

Junshi completed his assignments thoroughly and efficiently, and he was not afraid to take on challenges. For instance, when the opportunity arose, Junshi enthusiastically volunteered to represent a client in a complicated unemployment insurance hearing. Though he was unfamiliar with the area of law, he took the time to learn the law and patiently worked with the client to sort out the facts for the case. Junshi was well-prepared for the hearing and did an excellent job representing the client.

It is rare and always encouraging to find Chinese-speaking students well suited for the pursuit of the legal services profession. Junshi not only possess strong academic skills, but is also self-motivated, open and willing to learn new things, and completed many tasks to the level of professionalism required. I am confident that Junshi will succeed as an attorney.

Sincerely,

Tram T. Nguyen, Esq.