

August 10, 2009

Dan Ruben
Equal Justice America
Building II, Suite 204
13540 Easy Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

My Summer Fellowship experience was terrific, as I knew it would be. Having worked at North Penn Legal Services previously over my winter break, I knew exactly what I was getting into, and I am proud of the substantive legal assistance I provided to low-income clients over the course of the summer.

NPLS focuses on bankruptcies, foreclosures, protections from abuse, Social Security disability appeals, landlord-tenant issues, and custody disputes, and I am glad to say that I got to work on a broad variety of assignments encompassing all of these types of cases.

I am particularly happy to mention my involvement with two cases this summer that were especially rewarding:

First, during my last week on the job, I got to serve as the lead non-lawyer representative for one of our clients in an unemployment compensation appeal. I did everything for the case, including researching the issues to be heard at the appeal hearing, developing the legal strategy based on case law and witness interviews, and then, on the day of the hearing, actually leading argument and questioning. Our client, a single mother of a developmentally disabled child, was glad to give me the opportunity to apply the skills I have developed, and while we are still awaiting a decision from the Board, I think we were both happy with how the hearing went.

Second, I was tasked with drafting a motion for judgment on the pleadings. Our client was involved in a property dispute, and she had lost at the Magisterial District Court level, and again at an arbitration panel appeal. She was facing a judgment of over \$2500, which to some of our clients, is an insurmountable debt. Due to my motion, which my attorney submitted unedited, we got the Plaintiff's case dismissed and the arbitration board's judgment reversed.

Through these and other experiences this summer, I know that I will remain dedicated to pro bono work, despite the fact that I hope to begin my legal career in private practice. Thank you again for selecting me as a Fellowship recipient.

Best Regards,

Brian Wright
University of Virginia
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