

October 24, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Ruben:

During my Equal Justice America fellowship with Appalachian Citizens' Law Center this past summer, I grew certain of my commitment to public interest legal work. I found the work that I did at ACLC to be compelling, challenging, and fulfilling. As a result, I will be working at another nonprofit this coming summer and am hoping to do the same after I finish law school.

As a legal intern at ACLC, I was able to file a complaint on behalf of an individual who, along with many others in the same situation, lost their Social Security disability benefits without being afforded their full due process rights. I was also able to work with a team of hardworking and creative attorneys who successfully argued for a preliminary injunction to stop the Social Security Administration from terminating this individual's much-needed benefits while the case progresses. As a result, this individual will be able to continue supporting themselves and their family members while they ensure that they and others are able to exercise their due process rights.

I was also involved in ACLC's policy work developing proposals for a just and sustainable economic transition in the region. Though the labor of many of the individuals who worked in the area's coal mines provided output that literally fueled the nation, they themselves have seen relatively little reward. Instead, coal companies left the region and its residents unsupported after they could no longer provide profits to others. ACLC is working in

conjunction with other local organizations to propose plans to uplift the region's economy through local, inclusive, and community-driven development. While working on these projects, I met so many individuals who were passionate about and dedicated to advocating for the region and its citizens. Their work motivated me to seek out opportunities to do the same as I continue in my legal career.

I am very grateful for Equal Justice America's support of my work at ACLC. Thank you so much for the opportunity that you made possible for me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kara Goad

Kara Goad
Cornell Law School
Candidate for Juris Doctor, May 2018