

Mr. Dan Ruben  
Equal Justice America  
August 29, 2017

Dear Mr. Ruben:

My experience as a law clerk this summer for the Migrant Legal Action Program, made possible by a generous grant from Equal Justice America, helped solidify my desire to pursue a public interest law career.

I was able to perform a wide variety of research projects that provided legal aid and advocacy to MLAP's national network of clients in the field of migrant rights of farmworkers and their families. For example, I researched the public-school enrollment laws and policies for three different states, which gave our clients easier access to critical information necessary to enroll their children in public schools, such as necessary documentation and policies regarding immunization records.

I also researched and wrote memorandums on current event developments related to issues affecting migrant farmworkers and their families. The goal of these projects was to give our clients insight into the legal and political implications of current developments, and what they needed to expect going forward as to their legal status. This included projects on Mexican education reform related to enrollment of students who were deported from other countries back into their native Mexico, a Texas state statute addressing sanctuary cities and the expectations placed upon officers of the peace in public schools, and whether students or their parents in the Texas school system were at increased risk of detainment or deportation.

Overall, because of MLAP's national network, I was able to do projects for clients from across the country. The opportunity to help parents enroll their students in school, or put their minds a little more at ease regarding the status of their children in public schools, was a truly special one and a significant reason why my experience calcified my desire to pursue a career in public interest work. The clients MLAP worked with were often poor and had very little other legal recourse or access to adequate representation, and through our network we were able to provide informational services to help our clients gain a better understanding of the nuances of immigration law. Aside from those intending to enroll their students in public schools, a large number of our clients were at high risk of deportation as a result of changes in state or federal law addressing their immigrant status. The experience taught me about the importance of speaking up for those whose voices have been diminished and the significant impact that even a small legal aid and advocacy organization can have on preserving their rights.

Thank you again for the opportunity and for facilitating my wonderful summer experience.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Ryan  
The George Washington University Law School  
Class of 2019

# Migrant Legal Action Program, Inc.

1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 915

Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 775-7780

Fax: (202) 775-7784

August 31, 2017

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

Re: Tim Ryan

Dear Dan:

I am writing this letter of evaluation for Tim Ryan of George Washington University Law School who worked with us this summer, using an EJA fellowship.

We are enormously appreciative of the support you provided to Tim, since without your assistance we could not have employed him this summer. Tim made a very significant contribution to the work of our program and to our farmworker and immigrant clients. He was enthusiastic about the work and assignments, very diligent in pursuing the work, and very easy to work with. He produced high quality work and it was also a great pleasure to have him with us these past few months.

Tim undertook a variety of important legal research and writing projects for us. We provide a lot of training and technical assistance to grassroots groups which directly serve our client community. Tim updated state legal materials for a host of these trainings, to ensure we had the most current law to present to local staff. He also researched, among other things, a variety of federal funding issues, delving into some quite arcane areas.

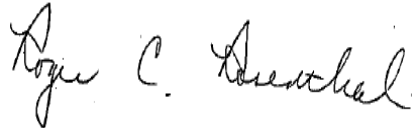
One of the more interesting and significant areas which he researched pertained to the Reading Sufficiency Act, an Oklahoma state law. This statute requires the retention in third grade of any student who cannot pass the standardized English reading test at the end of that year. This discriminates against any student not fluent in English and most immigrant students are in that category.

Thank you for making Tim's work possible for us! We benefited enormously from his presence with us this summer and we believe that, in turn, we provided an opportunity for expansion of his knowledge and legal skills at this same time.

The Migrant Legal Action Program has greatly valued our partnership with EJA through the years. We especially appreciate your interest in supporting work on behalf of very significantly disadvantaged groups, including our client community. We look forward to our continuing relationship.

Please let me know if you have any questions about his work or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger C. Rosenthal". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Roger C. Rosenthal  
Executive Director