

## GREGORY CONNER

---

September 16, 2014

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

Dear Mr. Ruben,

Thank you very much for enabling me to pursue a public interest position with the Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP) over the summer. Despite the appealing and noble work that my organization did, as a law student my choice in summer positions was somewhat determined by financial concerns. Receiving the EJA grant afforded me the opportunity to elect a unique and exciting position, one where I could feel satisfied in the legal assistance I was giving.

My summer work mostly entailed migrant workers with very few resources that were abused by their employers. One of my clients was worked so hard that I actually had to get out a calculator and see if it was possible to work that many hours in a week. I was mortified at the working conditions that his company put him through and amazed that it could still happen in the present day. I was very relieved after preparing the case for litigation when an attorney confirmed the case would proceed.

Another one of our clients faced working conditions so dangerous that there was a parallel workers compensation case to my organization's wage theft case. In addition to the mind numbing working conditions and OSHA violations, the employee wasn't even paid adequately. I don't draw this comparison lightly, but the workers we assisted over the summer worked in conditions that resemble slavery.

The need for legislative and other political change aside, the organizations like FLAP are essential to challenging the horrible conditions migrant and immigrant families face. I pray that EJA continues to support student who work for FLAP. So thank you for helping the organization, there's a lot of work yet to be done.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gregory Conner  
Chicago-Kent, Class of 2016