

September 2, 2016

Dan Ruben
Executive Director at Equal Justice America
1730 M St., NW, Ste. 800
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Ruben,

This summer I worked at Advancing Justice-LA. I spent a significant part of my summer working with human trafficking victims to help them collect on a default judgment. The likelihood of recovery is minimal as their abusers fled the country as the lawsuit progressed. Although the victims have not yet been able to recover monetarily for their damages they suffered, they were still able to qualify for T-Visas, which can lead to citizenship and allowed the victims to be re-united with their families.

I was fortunate enough to hear some of the victims speak at a press conference to celebrate the approval of their T-Visas. One woman bravely told her story and how she was treated as a slave. She, like the other victims, was brought to the United States by her employer, an owner of an elite bakery, on a H2B visa. H2B visas are temporary work visas. They are tied to the employer and thus recipients of these visas are often exploited. Once in the United States this victim was forced to work around the clock as a nanny, a maid, a personal assistant, and a bakery employee. She could take few breaks and was paid minimally at rate around \$2/hr. She endured heinous abuse by her employer but still managed to find the courage to say that this treatment was wrong. With the help of Advancing Justice-LA and the support of her co-plaintiffs, she bravely fought against her abusers.

I was able to help the victims as I researched different avenues for recovery. Although, the process is still pending it was my honor to continue to their fight and to share in their celebrations.

Thank you for making this last summer possible for me.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Hall

Loyola Law School
Class of 2017



ASIAN AMERICANS
**ADVANCING
JUSTICE**
LOS ANGELES

August 31, 2016

Via Electronic Mail

Katie Toman
Office Manager
Equal Justice America
Building II – Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Rd.
Midlothian, Virginia 23112
katie@equaljusticeamerica.org

RE: Equal Justice America Fellowship Evaluation of Lorraine Hall

Dear Ms. Toman,

With the generous support of an Equal Justice America Fellowship, Lorraine Hall interned with the Impact Litigation Unit of Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles (“Advancing Justice – LA”) from May 31, 2016 to July 31, 2016. Advancing Justice – LA is the nation’s largest and oldest legal and civil rights organization for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. The Impact Litigation Unit brings civil litigation to highlight and challenge discriminatory, unlawful practices affecting our communities.

Lorraine came to us as a second year law student in the top 10% of her class, and with an impressive and extensive background in serving people in need, including her participation in the Loyola Law School Immigrant Justice Clinic and her career as a Registered Nurse before law school.

Lorraine was a great pleasure to work with. She was deeply committed to our clients and their cases. She was eager to engage in a broad range of legal work to support our clients and adept at adjusting to the unpredictable, usually frenetic pace of litigation: from researching international legal strategies to enforce a court judgment of \$15 million in a human trafficking case, drafting a complaint to the state Department of Education for the failure to translate essential academic reports for monolingual parents, researching a specific industry for trends in employment law, to observing and providing input on third-party depositions. She impressed us with her enthusiasm and ability to be proactive about taking on the task or researching the specific topic that became the most urgent in any given moment.

Most of her time was devoted to a human trafficking case that we brought in federal court on behalf of 11 Filipino bakery workers. Lorraine was instrumental in helping us map out concrete options to enforce a judgment that we obtained for the workers after the defendants fled the country and liquidated all their assets. Specifically, she researched mechanisms for taking discovery in foreign jurisdictions party to the Hague Convention. We were impressed with her ability to grasp international law concepts and judgment enforcement, areas very new to the attorneys on the case but which she quickly became familiar with. Her attention to detail, willingness to explore obscure areas of international law and post-judgment procedure, and determination that our clients get justice made it possible for us to believe the impossible was possible. She has given our clients hope.

Lorraine was also a valuable member of our team, because she also served as a mentor to two other law clerks who had just completed their first year of law school. She assisted them in understanding their research assignments and navigating concepts of law that they were not yet familiar with. I respected her ability to support the other law students, and not be just career-driven.

Her extensive work and public service experience served her well in this internship. She was very professional and personable, could work independently, and asked for clarification when needed. She seemed to make the most of the internship as a learning opportunity and as a way to make a difference in our clients' lives.

By the end of the summer, we learned that the national Asian Pacific American Bar Association awarded her the Bryan Cave Fellowship for law students. We were not surprised that she received this great recognition. We have no doubt she has a brilliant legal career ahead of her, and we are grateful of Equal Justice America for supporting her summer with us and our clients.

Sincerely,

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – LA

A square image containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is stylized and appears to read 'Y.S.' or similar initials.

Yanin Senachai, Esq.

