

August 31, 2007

Dan Ruben  
Executive Director at Equal Justice America  
Building II, Suite 204  
13540 East Boundary Road  
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Dear Dan Ruben,

This past summer I was an Equal Justice America Summer Fellow at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago ("LAF"). I worked under two supervising attorneys at LAF, David Yen of the Bankruptcy Department and Michelle Weinberg of the Consumer Law for the Elderly Project. Prior to starting at LAF, I applied for and received my 711 license, which is a temporary license to practice law in Illinois for senior law students, subject to the conditions specified in Illinois Supreme Court Rule 711.

As an intern in the Bankruptcy Department, I researched law and wrote memoranda on a wide array of subjects including wage garnishment, a mortgage lender's ability to charge debtor post-petition inspection fees, the preclusive effect of a confirmed Chapter 13 bankruptcy plan, and personal jurisdiction. In addition to the legal research and writing, I also frequently represented clients who had filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy at their meeting of creditors in front of the trustee. I thoroughly enjoyed doing this because it enabled me to have extensive contact with the client.

As an intern for the Consumer Law for the Elderly Project, I drafted several motions and pleadings for clients involved in mortgage fraud cases. Also, I observed several days of a trial that my supervising attorney represented a client in. I also got involved in the trial by drafting a motion to take judicial notice.

Overall, my Summer Fellowship at LAF was a very positive experience. The client contact I experienced was refreshing because of how sympathetic some of our clients are. It was great to actual witness the positive impact my daily work had on low-income individuals. At the same time, it was rather disheartening to see so many low-income individuals suffer from different legal problems and then face the realization that we do not have the resources to help them all.

If you have any further questions regarding my Summer Fellowship, I can be reached at (708) 989-7772 or at MHamstra@kentlaw.edu. Thank you very much for your generosity, and for your time and efforts.

Respectfully,



Micah Hamstra  
*Juris Doctor Candidate*, May 2008  
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