



# FAIR HOUSING OF MARIN

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

BY EMAIL ONLY to Dan@EqualJusticeAmerica.org

August 31, 2015

RE: Piper Akol; Equal Justice America Summer 2015 Fellowship

Dear Mr. Rubin,

I am contacting you regarding Piper Akol, a recipient of an EJA Summer 2015 Fellowship. Ms. Akol was a law student intern at Fair Housing of Marin this past summer and provided invaluable assistance to our organization. Fair Housing of Marin is a private non-profit designed to maximize housing opportunities for all persons regardless of disability, race, color, religion, national origin, familial status, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, occupation, ancestry, or source of income. As we are a small non-profit organization, we serve a growing number of clients every year and Ms. Akol's presence this summer was incredibly helpful, particularly given her ability to communicate in Spanish.

Ms. Akol's duties included the following, under my supervision: conducting client intake and screening for fair housing issues; interviewing clients; conducting research on fair housing laws and drafting memoranda; assisting with communication with monolingual Spanish-speaking clients; and conducting outreach in the community through survey work. Ms. Akol was always willing to assist the organization in any way she could. As one of the few Spanish speakers at our organization, Ms. Akol's presence allowed our organization to provide more comprehensive assistance to monolingual Spanish speakers, some of the most vulnerable tenants in Marin County. Ms. Akol had a great ability to connect with clients, many of whom others would describe as difficult to work with, often as a result of mental disabilities. In addition to her skills providing direct services and working with clients, Ms. Akol's research and writing skills helped the housing counseling department to better advocate for clients, particularly in areas surrounding reasonable accommodation requests on behalf of disabled tenants. In addition to working directly with clients and conducting legal research, Ms. Akol conducted outreach in the community, interviewing tenants to screen for predatory habitability issues with possible fair housing implications.



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Ms. Akol was a pleasure to work with this summer. She allowed our organization to serve a greater number of clients and provide more comprehensive services than would have otherwise been possible, and we already miss her greatly.

Should you have any questions about our organization and/or Ms. Akol's internship, feel free to contact me at 415-483-7535 or via email at [casey@fairhousingmarin.com](mailto:casey@fairhousingmarin.com). Please note I will be out of the office from September 7-24th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey Epp".

Casey Epp  
Staff Attorney