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September 8, 2017

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

Re: Employer letter for Jeremy Chen, summer 2017 law clerk

Dear Mr. Ruben,

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area staff, along with a host of pro bono attorneys, provide tens of thousands of hours of free legal assistance and representation each year to advance civil rights, including the rights to adequate housing, employment, social services, education, voting rights, economic security and fair treatment within the criminal justice system. We work hard to maintain our role as a leading legal advocate in the racial, immigrant, and economic justice movement. Through expanded partnerships with community based organizations and law firms that offer pro bono expertise and support, our staff, fellows, and volunteers work daily to protect and advance civil rights in three priority areas: Racial Justice, Immigrant Justice, and Economic Justice.

A key component of our Economic Justice program is our Glide Unconditional Legal Clinic. In partnership with Glide Memorial Church, Bay Area Legal Aid, and pro bono attorneys, LCCR runs a general legal clinic in the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco. A large number of San Francisco residents are unable to afford or otherwise access a lawyer help them with their civil legal problems. They often either represent themselves or they ignore their legal problems altogether, often resulting in a default judgment against them or other harsh consequences. The inaccessibility of legal support often denies them a meaningful opportunity to defend their rights or to pursue disputes involving child custody, domestic violence, housing, employment, immigration, or discrimination. Individuals in this situation often lose not because they have a bad case, but because they did not have access to the support the needed to properly present their case. This inability to access legal assistance may cost them their jobs, homes, families—and sometimes even their freedom.

The Glide Unconditional Legal Clinic advances LCCR's Economic Justice mission by offering free consultation and legal assistance, including representation and referrals, to the most marginalized and underserved residents of the Tenderloin and surrounding neighborhoods.



Since he started clerking for LCCR in August, Jeremy has helped coordinate the legal clinic. He has worked with our staff and our pro bono attorneys to interview the clinic's clients and help them address and resolve their issues. Although his time with us has been short, he has had the opportunity to interview and assist our clients with resolving a variety of civil legal issues, including: eviction, small claims matters, municipal fines, and civil harassment. Law clerks like Jeremy play an important role in helping to run the legal clinic, and grants from organizations like Equal Justice America make it possible for many of them to contribute to sustaining the critically important work that we do. We appreciate the commitment Jeremy has shown to the Clinic and the clients he has assisted. I personally would like to thank you for supporting Jeremy's work with Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Sincerely,

Keith L. Wurster

Senior Litigation Attorney
Director of Pro Bono & Strategic Partnerships
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