

Dan Ruben

Equal Justice America

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I am writing to thank Equal Justice America for facilitating the opportunity for me to intern with Boulder County Legal Services (BCLS) this year. During my time with BCLS, I improved my legal research and writing skills, became familiar with family, elder, and immigration law, learned how to work in a legal office, and helped fulfill the needs of people in my community. I could not have asked for a better way to spend my year, and I am grateful for the experience.

Working with BCLS introduced me to working in a legal office. I learned the intricacies of working in such an environment, including how to run conflict checks, how to file and work with client files, and how to protect client confidentiality. I have also become accustomed to family, elder, and immigration law in Colorado. A working knowledge of these fields will be very helpful as I begin my legal career.

In addition to learning the law, I improved my Spanish-speaking skills through my internship. I worked face-to-face with clients during intake interviews and meetings between clients and attorneys. I developed a legal-Spanish vocabulary and gained exposure to different accents and dialects. These skills will also greatly benefit me in my career.

I had such a wonderful experience working with BCLS my first semester that I applied to continue working there in the spring. Continuing for another semester allowed me to develop stronger relationships with the individuals in my office, become invested in longer projects, and clarify and solidify my understanding of the subject matter with which I worked. I was able to take ownership for projects and hone my time management and communication skills, having to work with multiple attorneys and clients to achieve my goals.

Working with different attorneys along with my supervisor was very helpful to my learning experience. I was exposed to different techniques and approaches to providing legal services. I was thrilled to learn that no matter the attorney or the approach, the overall goal is always to achieve the best outcome for the client. I chose this internship in part to gain a sense of fulfillment from helping members of my community, and I was able to do just that.

My time with BCLS has motivated me to continue working to help my fellow community members. Even if I do not continue with legal aid full time in my future, I plan to continue to be involved through volunteering. Again, I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with BCLS, and would highly recommend this intern program to my fellow law students. Thank you for your investment in my work and education!

Sincerely,

Abigail Rings