

CENTRAL VIRGINIA LEGAL AID SOCIETY, INC.



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October 14, 2015

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

Re: Ryan Asalone, Equal Justice America Summer 2015 Law Student Internship

Dear Dan:

Ryan Asalone, a rising Second Year law student at the University of Richmond School of Law, was my summer law student intern this year from May 26 to August 7, 2015. This letter summarizes my experiences with him.

Ryan was very helpful and extremely eager to learn and to undertake any task I requested of him. He did extensive investigations in cases involving consumer law, employment law and housing. He interviewed clients, obtained and analyzed documents, did legal research and summarized his results in memoranda to me.

Among the projects he worked on are: homestead exemptions from wage garnishment, the business records exemption to the hearsay rule, the Family and Medical Leave Act, a reverse mortgage foreclosure, a utility cutoff, an eviction from federally subsidized housing, the correct party-in-interest in a summons for unlawful detainer, an unemployment compensation Appeals Examiner hearing, a revocation of acceptance in a used car sale and a violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA).

Of note are the latter three. (1) Ryan represented a claimant for unemployment compensation two weeks after his internship ended, and received an unfavorable decision (currently on appeal) solely because the Appeals Examiner failed to consider the law on mitigating circumstances which Ryan had argued.

(2) Ryan almost singlehandedly obtained a revocation and an acceptable replacement for a used car which the dealer, who provided a limited warranty, was unable to adequately repair after multiple attempts.

(3) Ryan found the “smoking gun” payment of an insurance company to a bank which had financed a used car, demonstrating that the amount actually owed to the bank was \$15,000 less than claimed by the bank and their collections attorney, and resulted in a quick settlement of the violation of the FDCPA consisting of \$500 damages to the client and \$450 attorney’s fees to CVLAS.

Ryan approached all of his work with great passion, commitment, enthusiasm and compassion to uphold the rights of the disadvantaged and less fortunate.

If you have any questions or problems, please call me at 804-200-6045 or toll-free at 800-868-1012, ext. 6045. Thanking you for your cooperation and assistance, I am,

Sincerely,

Martin Wegbreit (Direct – 804-200-6045)
Director of Litigation