

August 29, 2018

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

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I am so grateful for the support of Equal Justice America this summer. I had the unique opportunity to work at the Pro Bono Institute (PBI) as a legal intern. It was truly an invaluable experience and I learned so much during my time at PBI that I know will serve me well throughout my time in law school and beyond in my legal career. This experience would not have been possible [without] EJA's support.

PBI is a non-profit organization that works with law firms, in-house corporate legal departments, and public interest organizations. The organization strives to provide these entities with resources and advice to enrich their pro bono practices in order to give back to those in need and provide free legal services that are of the utmost quality. PBI has a number of tools it provides such as consultations, educational programs, and research. PBI also offers a variety of clinics through which it matches attorneys with clients in need of pro bono representation. During my time at PBI, I was able to attend and observe a clinic where attorneys assisted non-profit organizations in updating their bylaws. The chance to observe this clinic and see lawyers in action helping clients was a truly moving experience. The clients were extremely appreciative of the legal aid they received and it was also clear that the lawyers providing the assistance found the experience moving as well.

My main project this summer at PBI was to research the business benefits of pro bono participation at law firms. Law firms are armed with extensive resources that enable them to give back to those in need who are not able to pay for legal aid. My research focused on the ways in which a strong pro bono program can actually positively impact business, in order to persuade law firms to bolster their pro bono programs and take on more pro bono cases. I observed wide-ranging synergy between pro bono and business and produced a report which summarized my key findings. This purpose of this report is to highlight that aside from the moral reasons that

lawyers should engage in pro bono, there are also many reasons in which an enriched pro bono program can have a ripple effect that positively impacts the firm as a whole.

Thank you again for supporting me this summer. I am tremendously grateful that I was selected to be an EJA fellow and I have learned so much about the importance of promoting equal justice.

Very truly yours,

Matti Vagnoni

American University Washington College of Law

J.D. Candidate, 2020

July 27, 2018

Re: Matti Vagnoni

It is with great enthusiasm that I am writing to update you on Matti Vagnoni's summer at the Pro Bono Institute. Her last day of work was July 26. Matti is intelligent, hardworking, open-minded, kind, and motivated.

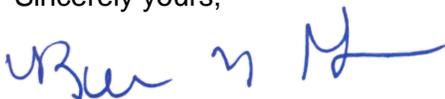
PBI is a small, nonprofit organization that provides research, consultative services, analysis and assessment, publications, training, and inspiration to a broad array of legal audiences seeking to expand and enhance access to justice for the poor and disadvantaged and also promotes effective and productive partnerships between and among major law firms, in-house corporate legal departments, public interest organizations, courts, law schools, and other stakeholders. Matti worked on a number of substantive projects over the course of the summer, with a primary focus on updating the "business case" for law firm pro bono.

She is a self-starter, routinely takes the initiative, and is able to see projects through to completion. At several points during the summer she had an opportunity to coast, but she did not opt to do so – rather she regularly sought additional assignments to challenge herself and contribute to our mission and work.

PBI benefited from her commitment to excellence and generous nature. We appreciate the financial sacrifice that she made to spend the summer doing public interest work with us – and we are grateful for the additional funding Equal Justice America provided. She was a leader and regularly spoke up during meetings and events and contributed greatly to our summer program's success. Matti was well-liked by the entire staff and the other interns.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely yours,



Reena N. Glazer
Assistant Director, Law Firm Pro Bono Project