



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



Name: Yixian Lu

Law School: Cornell Law School

EJA Fellowship: Legal Assistance of Western New York

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate

Over the past two weeks I have worked with Legal Assistance of Western New York to conduct intakes and support people who need our help. I am so happy that I can be a part of this great community and deal with all kinds of problems. It is fulfilling to be able to help people at their most vulnerable time.

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate [Equal Justice America](#)

As I mentioned two weeks ago, I am working Legal Assistance of Western New York to conduct intakes and support people who need our help during this summer. This is my fourth week and I will have my first hearing tomorrow (okay, my supervisor is doing that haha). Further, I am also writing a rebuttal which is extremely exciting.



Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate [Equal Justice America](#)

I am working at Legal Assistance of Western New York to conduct intakes and support people who need our help during this summer. This is my sixth week and one thing that is particularly hard to do is to reject a case. My supervisor and I have rejected several cases due to lack of legal arguments during the past week and it was tough. But it also shows me how important to be able to communicate effectively with our clients. Most of our clients are very understanding and sometimes our conversations burst into tears.

Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate [Equal Justice America](#)

I am working at Legal Assistance of Western New York to conduct intakes and support people who need our help during this summer. This is my last week :(I have been sharing an office with my supervisor throughout the summer and it is really great because whenever I have a question, she's there for me. (People are saying that we two have the same kind of humor -- Chandler Bing's sarcastic.) I really had and am still having a blast and I think this internship really gives me some sense of what type of pro bono work I want to do later on. And I will also be a supporter and a friend of LawNY. Please consider supporting EJA so that they can continue to fund others who are pursuing a career in social justice lawyering!



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August 1, 2018

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

RE: Evaluation of Yixian Lu's EJA-supported summer fellowship

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am writing in support of law student Yixian Lu, who assisted advocates and clients this summer at the Rochester office of Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc. (LawNY). We are grateful to Equal Justice America (EJA) for providing financial support for her internship.

LawNY's mission is to provide access to the justice system to low-income people and other vulnerable populations who have civil legal problems. This summer, Yixian was able to complete over 250 hours of service. She attended and assisted with a variety of legal proceedings related to barriers to employment, including appearances at the Division of Human Rights, the Unemployment Insurance Benefits Appeal Board, and the New York State Department of Health.

Yixian also performed intakes, participated in client interviews, did outreach, and attended a variety of case acceptance and planning meetings. She was especially skilled at performing legal research, and the information that she obtained was valuable to our clients' cases. Yixian researched employment discrimination, benefits reduction, and public benefits-related work requirements issues. On a personal note, I predict that Yixian will be very successful in the legal field. In addition to her varied legal skills and diligent work ethic, she has a great sense of humor and our clients were very comfortable working with her.

EJA fellowships allow law students like Yixian to gain real-world legal experience while supporting our advocates in their work. Support from EJA enabled Yixian to work with us at LawNY this summer, and the experience will likely have a positive impact on her legal career. We hope to continue to host law student interns who receive EJA fellowships.

Please feel free to contact me at 585-295-5613 with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly McGovern
Staff Attorney