

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

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I am writing at the close of my summer internship at Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) in Anchorage, Alaska. My ability to participate in this internship was made possible by funding from Equal Justice America, for which I am incredibly grateful. I chose this internship because of the chance to get immersed in direct client services. I plan to pursue work as a public defender after law school, and this internship allowed me to get direct exposure to the non-criminal legal issues that many of my indigent future clients will face. It was an extremely useful and informative experience.

My role at ALSC allowed me to participate in a wide variety of projects in the field of civil legal aid. These ranged from large to small. With the help of an interpreter, I guided a Yup'ik client through his will questionnaire. I also engaged in motions practice: I drafted the opposition to a motion for summary judgment in a landlord-tenant dispute; a 60(b) motion; and an answer, counterclaim, cross-claim, motion for extended time, and affidavit and memorandum in a custody matter. Finally, I was able to research and draft a brief for use in Child in Need of Aid cases, arguing that Alaska's woefully understaffed and under-resourced Office of Children's Services (OCS) is fundamentally unable to provide the "active efforts" at reunification that the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) requires in every case involving a Native child.

The most valuable part of this summer for me, however, was not the legal research or writing, but the human relationships I was able to form and the lessons my clients taught me. As one example, I worked with a woman who was facing a custody battle for her three children, all

of whom were under four years old. She was also in the midst of an abusive relationship involving multiple incidents of domestic violence, and sought a protective order against her former boyfriend. Finally, she was facing eviction at the same time as these other legal issues cropped up. She had previously struggled with drug addiction, and had faced an OCS case against her as a result, but had successfully completed children and regained full custody of her kids. Yet she was watching all that hard work slip away. I was unfailingly impressed with this client's strength and resilience, but her case also made me fully grasp the reality of what criminal defense attorneys refer to as "collateral consequences." My client could have faced any one of these issues stemming from a criminal proceeding, and seeing firsthand how difficult the system is for someone to navigate without expert representation made that phrase all too real.

Thank you again for enabling me to have these, and many other, valuable experiences this summer in my internship at ALSC. It's a summer I will never forget!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maddy Bullard". The signature is fluid and connected, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Maddy Bullard

Stanford Law School, Class of 2020



ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
ANCHORAGE AND STATEWIDE OFFICE

1016 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 200
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1963
TELEPHONE (907) 272-9431
FAX (907) 279-7417
www.alsc-law.org

October 12, 2018

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

Re: Evaluation of Maddy Bullard

Dear Mr. Ruben:

For five weeks this summer Alaska Legal Services Corporation had the pleasure of hosting Stanford law student Maddy Bullard. In her relatively short time here, Maddy made significant contributions on numerous projects.

Maddy's work was incredibly diverse. She assisted with writing briefs both for *pro se* clients and ALSC attorneys, conducted extensive legal research, and evaluated new client matters. Maddy was asked to dive into a wide range of topics including foreclosure defense, civil procedure, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. All of the attorneys that worked with Maddy remarked on her capabilities in these complex areas of law. In a foreclosure matter that she was working on, her research will likely lead to a favorable settlement for the client.

Maddy also worked directly with clients. She worked with one client whose life was in total chaos. This woman was in dire need of legal services due to very serious domestic violence; however, due mostly to circumstances beyond her control, the client was constantly missing meetings and showing up late. Maddy persisted and was able to draft very fact-intensive pleadings for the client so that she could more effectively present her argument to the judge. At this point, the judge has been ruling in the client's favor.

What Maddy accomplished during her tenure with us was incredibly impressive, particularly when you consider that she was with us for just five weeks. She made a difference in the lives of several of our clients, some of whom may not have been served were it not for Maddy's assistance.

Our thanks to Equal Justice America for supporting Maddy's work this summer.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie Humm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Maggie Humm
Supervising Attorney