



Summer 2018 EJA Fellow



Name: Jackson Wimberly

Law School: The University of Chicago Law School

EJA Fellowship: LAF

Entry 1: Week of 6/11/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate Over the past two weeks, I've worked with LAF's Consumer Practice Group to provide free legal services to low-income people facing foreclosure, bankruptcy, and consumer fraud. Chicago has the highest number of Chapter 13 bankruptcy filings in the country due in large part to the city's zero tolerance approach to parking tickets (and impounding people's vehicles).

Entry 2: Week of 6/25/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate Interning with LAF's Consumer Practice Group has been an incredible learning experience for me. I've been able to work directly with clients at the Bankruptcy Help Desk (a walk-in clinic at the federal courthouse), drafted motions and pleadings, collaborated with attorneys, and conducted research. It's been so rewarding to work alongside such dedicated and brilliant attorneys whose work allows people to stay in their homes, discharge their debts, keep their lights on, or fight back against consumer fraud.

Entry 3: Week of 7/9/2018

#EJAFellowUpdate Hi Everyone! For the past month, I've had the privilege of working with LAF's Consumer Practice Group to provide free legal services to people across Chicago and its suburbs. Seeing firsthand what a difference legal representation can make has been a really powerful experience for me. Sometimes all it takes is a letter on LAF letterhead or a phone call from one of our attorneys to completely resolve an issue for our clients. Other times, we have to really dig in and litigate, providing folks with the kind of quality representation and advocacy that most people have to pay thousands of dollars to retain. Equal Justice America has made it possible for me, and countless other law students, to do this kind of work serving low-income people across America. [LAF The University of Chicago Law School](#)



Entry 4: Week of 7/23/2018

[#EJAFellowUpdate](#) Hi Everyone! For the past six weeks, I've been interning with LAF's Consumer Practice Group, providing free civil legal services to low-income people across Chicago and its suburbs. I'm so grateful to Equal Justice America ("EJA") for funding my summer fellowship with LAF. EJA makes it possible for law students like me to accept public interest internships by providing funding for summer and post-grad fellowships. Often, students who want to take public interest positions over the summer are unable to afford the experience because they have to find external funding to support them, and internships like these demonstrate to many law students that they really do belong in the non-profit sector, despite the pay cut.