



Summer 2019 EJA Fellow:



Name: Chloe Kempf

Law School: University of Texas School of Law

Fellowship: Disability Rights Texas

Entry 1:

I am so grateful to have been selected as one of this year's Equal Justice America Fellows, and I am currently working in the Austin office of Disability Rights Texas. I am two weeks into my internship, and I am really enjoying my time here so far! I have had the chance to attend trainings and a moot court, and to help on a Medicaid appeal to restore nursing services to our client. Additionally, I got the opportunity to research case law around the use of force by school resource officers. As part of that project, I also reviewed disability-related statutes recently passed by the Texas Legislature with members our policy team. I am looking forward to discovering what the next 8 weeks have in store.

Entry 2:

Things are going great at Disability Rights Texas. I have had the chance to work on a wide variety of issues and meet some of our clients. The use of force in public school case from my last update has progressed, and I am still on the team that is working on it. I was able to draft a complaint against our client's school district, which alleges that the district failed in its duty to identify, locate, and evaluate our client for special education services. This resulted in a denial of our client's access to a Free Appropriate Public Education and caused harm by unnecessarily involving him with the juvenile justice system instead of treating his underlying disabilities. I am looking forward to staying on this case as it continues, and helping our client receive the education that he is entitled to.



Entry 3:

I wanted to use this update to talk more broadly about my appreciation for Disability Rights Texas, and the diverse range of opportunities it has presented to me so far this summer. For example, yesterday I got to tag along with the policy team to San Antonio for a variety of meetings, with content ranging from student mobility to special education advocacy training. I have also worked with our Education, Institutional Rights and Civil Liberties, Foster Care, and Healthcare teams. With two weeks left, I am looking forward to seeing what else this internship has in store!

Entry 4:

This is my second-to-last day at Disability Rights Texas, and I could not have imagined a better summer internship. I learned so much in so little time, worked with so many amazing people at DRTx, and was able to meaningfully contribute to the fight for civil rights for people with disabilities.

I am very grateful for Equal Justice America for facilitating this opportunity and I look forward to remaining part of the EJA team.

Though I am moving on from DRTx for now, please consider donating to Equal Justice America so that my work, and the work of my peers, may continue.