



Summer 2020 EJA Fellow:



Name: Rachel Murphy

Law School: University of Chicago

Organization: Employment Law Clinic at
Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic

Week of June 15th

This marked my second week at the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic at the University of Chicago. There are various different clinics under the Mandel Clinic umbrella; I am working at the Employment Law Clinic. Since employment law is not part of the first-year curriculum, this has been a great opportunity to learn more about an area of law that interests me. This week was an especially eventful time in employment law with the release of the Supreme Court's decision in *Bostock v. Clayton County*. I have already learned a lot and I am looking forward to the rest of the summer!

Week of July 6th

I have been learning a lot at the Employment Law Clinic this summer! I was able to attend a telephonic hearing related to the potential settlement of a class action, which was interesting. Additionally, many of our cases involve co-counsel from outside the law school, either with attorneys in private practice or nonprofit organizations. It has been great to have the opportunity to work with lawyers practicing in different settings and hear their perspectives. I have mainly been focusing on two different projects: finalizing a motion for summary judgment, which we will file soon, and preparing for depositions that will take place at the end of the summer.

Week of July 27th

We filed our Motion for Summary Judgment...and the opposing party filed one as well. The next step is for us to prepare a Response to their Motion. My supervisor is having the other summer intern and I do the initial draft, which is very exciting. So far, we have reviewed and outlined their Motion, completed an initial outline of our response, and reviewed the cases they cited.



The first deposition in the other case will be taking place in a couple days. Our client is going to be deposed first so we have been working to identify topics that will likely come up, reviewing documents so that we can prepare the client, and figuring out how remote video depositions work. I am looking forward to being able to sit in on the client's preparation and the deposition. I have helped prepare for depositions before and read transcripts, but this will be my first time actually observing one.

Week of August 10th

I am fortunate that the end of my summer internship is not the end of my time working at the Employment Law Clinic. I will be continuing my work during the academic year and hopefully see the final resolution to some of the cases I worked on this summer. During my internship, I enjoyed the chance to see how different civil procedure topics operate in practice. I learned a lot about class actions, motions for summary judgment, and the discovery process. Moreover, I am grateful for the opportunity to learn about employment law. I hope to take classes in employment law in the upcoming year and know that my experiences this summer will add a lot to my class experience.