



Summer 2020 EJA Fellow:



Name: April Emerson

Law School: University of Richmond School of Law

Organization: Central Virginia Legal Aid Society-
Petersburg Office

Week of June 17th

Earlier this year I was fortunate enough to be selected as an Equal Justice America Summer Fellow. EJA provides opportunities for law students to work with organizations that deliver civil legal services to those most in need. A few weeks ago, I had the privilege of starting my summer internship with one of those organizations, Central Virginia Legal Aid Society in Petersburg.

So far, it's been an incredible experience. I've conducted client calls, drafted court and community legal education documents, done a variety of research, and attended several webinars discussing new laws going into effect. Although my work has been largely remote, the attorneys have done a great job of providing valuable mentorship and giving me a multitude of opportunities to work with clients and on various cases.

This summer may look a little different than in years before but one thing that isn't different is the abundant need for legal services like those provided by CVLAS. Please consider donating to Equal Justice America so it can continue supporting law students working to provide these critical services at legal aid organizations across the country.

Week of July 7th

It's time for my second update as part of my Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship. The weeks since my last update have been filled with a variety of issues including housing repairs, guardianships, expungements, and housing vouchers. Last week, Virginia lifted its eviction moratorium and thousands now face the possibility of eviction amidst the ongoing pandemic. Assisting as many clients as possible facing such eviction will likely be the focus for the remaining weeks of my internship.



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

LEGAL SERVICES FELLOWSHIPS

The critical need for legal aid services is clear, more so now than ever. Please consider donating to Equal Justice America so it can continue supporting law students working to help fill the demand for legal aid assistance. Donations can be made at: bit.ly/EJASummer2020

Week of July 17th

Time for my third Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship update. Hard to believe my internship is almost over. Since my last update I've been largely focused on landlord tenant issues. I also got to draft my first subpoena and a couple of court orders. Through this experience I've seen firsthand how important, and needed, legal aid services are. It's an experience I am very grateful for.

The demand for legal aid services is high, especially now. Please consider donating to Equal Justice America so it can help in filling this demand.

Week of August 10th

This will be my fourth and final @Equal Justice America Summer Fellowship update. The summer has flown by! I've spent the last few days reflecting on my summer and feel very lucky to have spent it with CVLAS, providing free legal services for the Petersburg area communities. I learned so much and saw firsthand how important, and necessary, the services provide by legal aid organizations are, especially during this pandemic. I will surely carry the lessons from this summer with me throughout my legal career. I am grateful to Equal Justice America for providing the funding that enabled me to have this experience.

Please consider donating to Equal Justice America so it can continue supporting law students pursuing work with organizations delivering civil legal services to those most in need.