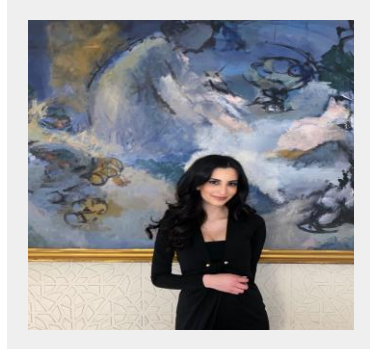




## Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



**Name:** Sanaa Jaroun

**Law School:** American University Washington  
College of Law

**Organization:** Muslim Advocates

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### Update 1:

My first EJA Fellow Update! This summer I am an Equal Justice America fellow, and as of two weeks ago I began my summer internship as a legal intern at Muslim Advocates, a national civil rights organization that aims to halt bigotry and discrimination. I have been primarily working on corporate accountability matters and denaturalization research. It has been incredibly inspiring working with a team that tirelessly works to combat anti-muslim bigotry, whether it be keeping Facebook accountable for making material misrepresentations about their company standards, or ensuring that incarcerated people have access to religiously-approved foods and the space and time to pray.

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### Update 2:

Time for my second EJA Fellow Update! I have been helping on a class action lawsuit filed on behalf of individuals whose visa applications were wrongfully denied or stalled by the federal government's failure to provide fair and meaningful access to case-by-case waivers from the travel ban. The plaintiffs are U.S. Citizens, lawful permanent residents, and Iranian, Libyan, Somali, Syrian, and Yemeni foreign nationals who had waivers denied or stalled without justification.

This point in my internship has been particularly meaningful to me. Not only have I been exposed to barriers and complexities in the U.S. immigration system, but as the daughter of Palestinian immigrants, I have been reflecting on what is at stake for these 32 Plaintiffs, who all come from different walks of life and have extraordinary talents that could contribute to a variety of fields in the U.S.



### **Update 3:**

This summer I have had the privilege of being a legal intern at Muslim Advocates, a national civil rights organization that works to combat anti-Muslim hate and discrimination. I have been exposed to the manifold forms of discrimination that are embedded in our carceral institutions, immigration system, and corporate practices.

Currently, I am working on Muslim Advocates' suit against Facebook Executives in order to keep them accountable for their violation of the D.C. Consumer Protection Procedures Act by falsely testifying to Congress that when the company learns of content that violates its standards or policies, that content is taken down. As a Texan and a Muslim, I have been personally reflecting on the recent role that social media content plays in motivated hate crimes, from the New Zealand Christchurch Mosque mass shooting to the 2019 El-Paso Walmart mass shooting.

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### **Entry 4:**

In a bittersweet fashion, I am posting my final EJA Fellow Update. This summer has been one of the most eye opening in my academic and professional career. Being able to apply my research and writing skills from my first year of law school to cases across the legal spectrum, from class action immigrants' rights cases to corporate accountability and prisoners' rights suits.

Today is also my last day as a summer legal intern at Muslim Advocates, and I am so grateful to both EJA and my host organization for what I feel was a much needed evolutionary step in the beginning of my legal career. To ensure that we can continue to uplift marginalized communities and provide them with adequate and accessible legal services, please consider donating to Equal Justice America, <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/3313700...>