



Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Meghan Murphy

Law School: Boston College Law School

Organization: ProBAR

Update 1:

I want to thank Equal Justice America for the opportunity to be an #EJAFellow this summer and American Bar Association ProBAR for hosting me in their legal department.

I have spent my first couple of weeks at ProBAR training and conducting research for asylum cases. I had the opportunity to participate in training sessions on unaccompanied children, climate change migration, and trauma-informed lawyering. I have also assisted in asylum applications and pro se services.

I look forward to continuing my work in asylum law with ProBAR this summer, and thank you again to EJA for supporting me in this work.

Update 2:

Thank you again to Equal Justice America for the opportunity to be an #EJAFellow this summer.

Today marks one month working as a legal intern with ProBAR. In addition to assisting attorneys with providing legal services to individuals detained in the Rio Grande Valley, I am grateful to also be participating in a research initiative on climate change and displacement. Through this project, ProBAR plans to develop a method for tracking forced migration of asylum seekers due to climate change and environmental disasters. My hope is that with more robust data, organizations like ProBAR can push for the development of protections for those facing climate displacement. My work with ProBAR has been varied and rewarding. Thank you to EJA for making my involvement with this work possible.



Update 3:

During the past couple of weeks at American Bar Association ProBAR, I have continued my research on climate displacement with a focus on asylum seekers from the Northern Triangle. We are in the process of developing a model for data collection that will inform us of the impact of climate change on international displacement. Importantly, this data will drive advocacy to protect climate-displaced persons.

I have also continued assisting individuals with their asylum applications. It is always a privilege of mine to be part of an individual's asylum process. Despite the dismal nature of the U.S. immigration system, I find time and time again that asylum seekers are hopeful and resilient. I am also privileged to work with an organization that fights so hard for the rights of immigrants. I look forward to my final weeks at ProBAR. Thank you Equal Justice America for making it possible.

Entry 4:

Today is my final day with American Bar Association ProBAR. During my past few weeks I was able to wrap up my work on various cases, and see the release from detention of an individual who I spent the summer working with. I was also able to help implement the climate displacement data tracking system with ProBAR and present the climate displacement project to the legal department this week. I am so grateful to have been brought on to so many projects during my time at ProBAR.

Despite the challenging nature of asylum work, I have been continuously encouraged by the amazing advocates at ProBAR. I look forward to using the skills I acquired this summer to continue the fight for immigrants' rights. Thank you ProBAR, and keep up the good fight.