



Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Scott Kenkel

Law School: University of Chicago Law School

Organization: Housing Initiative Transactional Clinic

Update 1:

This summer I'm proud to be a fellow with Equal Justice America as I work at the University of Chicago Housing Initiative Transactional Clinic. Working remotely has certainly been a different experience (pictured: my rather lazy assistants), but I've thoroughly enjoyed helping clients with tasks like setting up bylaws for affordable housing cooperatives and purchasing property for development as lower income housing. I've been especially impressed by the dedication of community members we work with and grateful for the opportunity to facilitate their efforts at maintaining and improving their communities.

Update 2:

The quality of my remote work assistants remains questionable, but I'm enjoying becoming more comfortable with affordable housing development, document drafting, and analyzing contracts at the Housing Initiative Clinic at UChicago Law. Although it's still early, I appreciate the increasing amount of help I'm able to offer clients in facilitating a range of affordable housing ventures.

Update 3:

After a somewhat crazy few weeks, I recently had the opportunity to co-lead a meeting with a client. Getting a sense of how to best help a client's specific needs is a skill I've enjoyed developing over the summer. Generally, although summer is going by fast, it's surprising how comfortable I'm becoming with the assorted tasks supporting various types of affordable housing development.



Entry 4:

Although this the last of my updates, I'm happy to say I will be working again at the housing initiative clinic during the autumn quarter. The work we did directly with affordable housing cooperatives was especially rewarding because it allowed me to witness first-hand the commitment of the coop members to maintaining the quality of their homes while also keeping access to units accessible for others.

I appreciate the aid from Equal Justice America in allowing me to do this work this summer (and putting me in a place to continue it through the fall). Equal Justice America facilitates civil legal aid access by sponsoring law students and legal services.