



Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Faith Hemingway

Law School: University of Minnesota Law

Organization: Legal Services NYC

Update 1:

I am a little over two weeks into my summer internship at Legal Services NYC with the Immigration Unit and it's time for my first EJA Fellow Update. This summer I was generously selected to be an Equal Justice America Fellow and a Sacks Public Interest and Human Rights Fellow through the University of Minnesota Law School.

With their support, I am able to embrace opportunities to learn from the staff and clients at LSNYC. So far, I have written motions that address topics ranging from recent Supreme Court decisions to challenges clients face because of the Covid pandemic. I also have the privilege of working with a client who is seeking asylum. I am grateful to participate in LSNYC's robust intern training program. It features twelve trainings that cover topics such as asylum, naturalization, protections for children and domestic violence survivors, and the ethics of immigration law.

Update 2:

My time at Legal Services NYC has been so fun and educational! I began compiling documents for an asylum case, researched arguments about competency in immigration court, and published a practice advisory on continuances for Covid.

Update 3:

Currently I'm working with a client seeking asylum based on religious persecution at Legal Services NYC. I've been able to practice trauma informed interviewing, find persuasive ways to tell her story and research arguments for her case.

Entry 4:

My summer at Legal Services NYC has exposed me to the creativity required to advocate for noncitizens. I learned how to address systemic challenges with clients and decision makers, by reaching out individually and through legal processes.