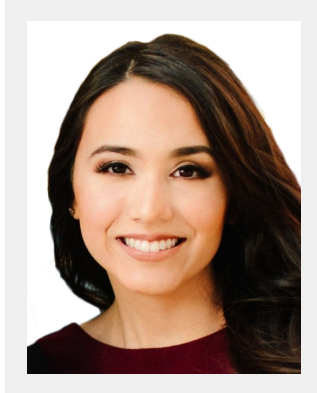




Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Lina Martinez

Law School: University of California, Berkeley

Organization: East Bay Community Law Center

Update 1:

This summer I am working as a law clerk with the East Bay Community Law Center's Clean Slate Practice to help provide clients with post-conviction remedies. I am only two weeks into my clerkship, and I've already had the opportunity to meet with clients over the phone who are seeking criminal case dismissals and felony reductions. We know that a criminal record often results in lifelong barriers to stable employment, housing, and civic engagement. The Clean Slate Practice focuses on providing re-entry services including criminal record remedies to try and reduce some of those barriers. My clerkship was made possible in part by Equal Justice America's Legal Services Fellowship. You can contribute to Equal Justice America and their efforts to support law students and recent graduates in providing affordable civil legal services.

Update 2:

I'm in my fourth week of interning for EBCLC's Clean Slate Practice and I've spent several hours in court watching judges weigh the potential risks and benefits of granting felony reductions, terminating probation terms, and dismissing convictions for petitioners. These decisions are often made in a matter of minutes (sometimes seconds) and can change the entire trajectory of a person's life. I'm excited to keep learning from the talented attorneys at EBCLC who work tirelessly on behalf of their clients.

Update 3:

Hi everyone! It's time for my third EJA Fellow Update! This week I drafted a petition for a mandatory case dismissal, analyzed several rap sheets for record remedies, and researched federal expungements and dismissals for a client.



EQUAL JUSTICE AMERICA

LEGAL SERVICES FELLOWSHIPS

I was lucky enough to receive a fellowship from Equal Justice America to help support my efforts in providing affordable legal services to low-income clients. If you are interested in contributing to Equal Justice America and its efforts to support law students and post-graduate fellows, please consider donating.

Entry 4:

It's time for my final EJA Fellow Update! In addition to my current caseload this week, I also had the opportunity to research the effects of AB 1076 on occupational licensing requirements. Except where disclosure is mandated by other law, AB 1076 expands the non-disclosure protections for convictions that have been dismissed. The reality is that Californians face barriers to employment and occupational licensure for criminal records that are decades old. The attorneys, volunteers, and interns at the East Bay Community Law Center work tirelessly to advocate for clients who are searching for record relief. I am grateful for the opportunities I've had this summer, and if you are able, I encourage you to donate to EJA so that future public interest law students can have funding to provide affordable legal services to low-income clients.