



Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Jaden Zwick

Law School: UCLA School of Law

Organization: Public Advocates, Inc.

Update 1:

My summer internship already feels like a dream job. I am entering my third week as a law clerk for Public Advocates, a non-profit law firm dedicated to building power among marginalized communities through legislation, litigation, and community organizing. I am a part of the Educational Equity team there, where I get to support projects related to equitable funding in public schools and so much more. It's high-impact work in such a supportive work environment.

I wanted to take a moment to thank the generosity of the Charles Houston Bar Association, the Legal Aid Association of California, and Equal Justice America (EJA) for investing in my work this summer. I am proud to be a fellow for these powerful organizations.

Update 2:

For my second update, I actually shared with individual mentors and educators in my life about the work that I am doing at Public Advocates. I shared that working at Public Advocates is extremely valuable to me personally because the mission of the organization is so closely aligned with my own personal mission—to uplift marginalized communities and promote systemic equity through legal advocacy. Beyond that, the work is valuable to people in my community! As a part of the educational equity team at Public Advocates, we prioritize community partnership in our efforts to hold school districts accountable and deliver what students deserve. As a whole, Public Advocates accomplishes tremendous progress in the areas of housing, transit justice, climate justice, and educational equity for the state of California through legislation and litigation. An



investment in this type of work is an investment toward real, tangible, transformation of our state toward justice.

Update 3:

On Fridays, the seven summer interns at Public Advocates gather on Zoom from across the state of California to discuss our legal advocacy work, and more importantly, to get to know each other. The intern team is comprised of brilliant minds with caring hearts, who all have a deep hunger for social equity and racial justice. Working with this group of conscious law students is inspiring because they remind me daily of our collective power and capacity.

I am humbled to be a part of this team, and especially grateful for the financial support of Equal Justice America this summer.

Update 4:

As I wrap up my summer internship experience at Public Advocates, I am feeling eager to go back to school with a newfound excitement for what it can mean to be lawyer. I am grateful to have spent my summer connecting with powerful leaders and advocates who are making a significant impact in transit, housing, education, and climate justice here in California. I am going into my second year of law school feeling inspired, eager, and supported as I continue to explore my own career trajectory. Being an Equal Justice America Fellow helped me to have a great summer experience at my internship.