

August 15, 2016

Mr. Dan Ruben  
Executive Director  
Equal Justice America

Dear Mr. Ruben:

My name is Lauren Rubin, I spent my fellowship experience working with Greater Boston Legal Services in their Family Law Unit's Divorce Work Group. My fellowship experience provided me with hands on experience, working with real clients in dire need of free legal services. The divorce work group's clientele consists of survivors of domestic violence who require legal assistance in obtaining a divorce and custody of their children.

As part of the divorce work group I conducted intake and screening of potential clients, participated in selecting which of the many clients in need of GBLS's services we would be able to represent. For the clients we were able to help, I drafted divorce paperwork and filed that paperwork with the courts. As a 3:03 Certified Student Attorney I represented clients in the Suffolk, Middlesex, and Norfolk Probate and Family Courts. I regularly met with clients to discuss their cases, prepared for upcoming court dates, and assisted in obtaining their financial documents for discovery purposes. I also acted as an intermediary between them and the opposing parties, when obtaining necessary information and discovery for their cases. When clients had court dates I appeared in court and argued on their behalf. I also, when appropriate, engaged in negotiations with opposing parties to obtain beneficial agreements for my clients with regards to custody, child support, and parenting time.

Whenever, I was unable to assist my clients, I referred them to various counseling services available for survivors of domestic violence and their children. I also obtained consults of areas of housing, welfare, employment, and immigration law to provide a holistic approach to legal services. Throughout my fellowship I had potential clients still in the intake process, I provided them with referrals to agencies that would be able to assist them with counseling services, safety planning, and immigration assistance while they wait for GBLS to decide if we can help them with their divorce.

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Lauren Rubin

*Lauren Rubin*

Boston University School of Law, Class of 2017