

129B Adams St. NW
Washington, DC 20001
September 4, 2007

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
Building II - Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

My internship with DC Law Students in Court, Inc. was an excellent substantive legal experience. Every Thursday we were in Landlord Tenant Court, helping people *pro se* handle their diverse legal situations. In Court, we filed motions, wrote answers and persuasive letters, completed applications to proceed IFP, prepared the client for speaking before the judge, negotiated with other attorneys and explained various court documents to the clients advising them of their legal rights and options. Ensuring the client had a thorough knowledge of what was happening in court that day, ex. explaining what a consent judgment agreement entails and the effects it will have on the client.

If we were not in court we were on an investigation or in the office conducting intake, which involved interviewing potential clients, answering legal questions, and if we were unable to take on the case, referring them to someone who could.

Investigations were carried out at the DC Housing Authority (DCHA), researching landlords and their properties' paperwork, i.e. deeds, certificates of elections, exemptions etc. Client investigations

were done at their homes, documenting and photographing housing code violations. Interns worked closely with all supervising attorneys on long-term projects and on case-by-case assignments.

I found my summer internship to be very rewarding, public aid is the law working in its purest form. My most rewarding case was helping a woman who came to see me before signing a consent judgment agreement, which would have entered a default judgment against her and in thirty days forced her and her three children out of an apartment she had been living in for seven years, all of which she didn't want to do. We helped her get a continuance on her L&T case pending the outcome of an administrative hearing with the DCHA, which she won because, on the merits, her landlord had no case against her. She was able to keep her public housing and apartment.

I welcome the opportunity to further discuss my summer experience with you at your convenience. I can be reached by phone at (804) 731-3972 or by email at tfb6@law.georgetown.edu. Thank you for your financial assistance this summer.

Sincerely,

Temi Bennett

Georgetown University Law Center

May 2009 J.D. Candidate