Mr. Dan Ruben **Equal Justice America**Building II - Suite 204,
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I had an amazing summer working for the Poverty and Race Research Action

Council. I was able to conduct research concerning preemption and immigration. Several local governments have enacted anti-immigrant housing ordinances. Housing ordinances are not expressly preempted in federal law. However, the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) regulates the presence of immigrants in the country the doctrine of implied preemption will be important in future immigration cases. The federal government has addressed the housing of undocumented immigrants through the INA's prohibition on "harboring" undocumented persons. Because the Supreme Court has not yet defined "harbor", the legal definition of "harbor" may be the key word in future housing cases when advocates of undocumented persons will use the doctrine of implied preemption to strike down local anti-immigrant ordinances.

My summer experience gave me the privilege of exposing myself to areas of law previously unexplored and allow me to develop professional relationships with people that I truly admired. I was inspired by the way that people of privilege with no personal stake in issues like immigration and poverty were so diligent in striving to achieve structural equality. Thank you so much for funding this research and experience. I will carry the lessons of social responsibility I have learned this summer with me when I become an attorney.

Sincerely,

Victoria Ajayi

Georgetown

## **PRRAC**

## Poverty & Race Research Action Council

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August 24, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Ruben,

I write to thank you for your funding of Victoria Ajayi for a summer fellowship. We greatly enjoyed having her with us for these 10 weeks. As a 501c(3) nonprofit, the Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) was unable to provide any funding to Ms. Ajayi, and so we truly appreciate your organization's ability to help her undertake public interest work.

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council is a non-profit civil rights policy organization based in Washington, DC. Our work brings together social scientists and advocates (usually lawyers) to work on issues of structural racial inequality in government programs and policies. Ms. Ajayi was able to easily bridge the worlds of law and policy and worked extremely well with our other interns. She brought great enthusiasm and creative energy to each of the projects we assigned to her, and she was a pleasure to have in the office.

Ms. Ajayi worked on a broad range of projects during her summer at PRRAC, including legal research and writing on key housing issues and assisting staff with other policy papers we were developing.

One of her major projects was contributing research and editorial support on a memo exploring the standing of a nonprofit to sue under the Fair Housing Act. She also drafted a detailed social science literature review and annotated bibliography on immigration and fair housing — a project which was extremely well researched and written and was used as part of a forum we sponsored jointly with the National Council of La Raza, the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, and the Equal Rights Center. Ms. Ajayi also developed other well-crafted housing-related annotated bibliographies and research briefs.

Ms. Ajayi's work during the course of her summer internship was consistently excellent. She took on a number of assignments, from simple to complex, and she was extremely responsive to each assignment, returning high quality products quickly and accurately. We were sincerely grateful for Victoria's assistance this summer and we are equally appreciative of your support, which allowed her to provide us with her talents.

Sincerely,

Kami Kruckenberg

Recruiting and Policy Associate

Hami Karchuly