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LANC-Winston-Salem Office

Reflections of 2011 Summer Law Clerks

by **Liza Baron**

Professional. Smart. Hard working. Earnest. Diligent. Dedicated. Excellent writers. These are the first words that jump to mind when I think of our law clerks this summer.

As usual, we had seven wonderful, energetic, eager law clerks join us this summer for 10 weeks of hard work in the trenches.

As usual, they got their feet wet doing a variety of things in our Family, Benefits, Foreclosure and HEEC units. We kept them busy, and they kept us busy. We delighted in their company, and they helped us with our caseloads, both with fast-rising emergencies and with the slower-moving cases on the back burners.

And I think we (and of course our clients) gave them a great learning experience, as usual. They conducted client interviews; represented clients in unemployment compensation hearings; researched challenging areas of the law and wrote up their findings (and did so excellently, as I have noted); negotiated settlements with adverse parties in subsidized housing eviction cases. You can read their own stories about their experiences on the next pages.

But what really sets this group apart is how professionally they have comported themselves this summer — not only with their demeanor but with their excellent performances on the job. They are an awesome and talented group of young lawyers-to-be, and I am proud to know them.

This edition of our newsletter gives us a welcome opportunity to celebrate their many, meaningful contributions to our office and to our clients. We hope you enjoy it!

Liza Baron is the managing attorney of the HEEC (Housing, Education, Employment, Consumer) Unit in Legal Aid of NC's Winston-Salem Office.



Summer Law Clerks, LANC-Winston-Salem Office

(l-r): **Tiffany Tyler** (Wake Forest University School of Law); **Crystal Sumner** (Elon University School of Law); **Villy Stolper** (Wake Forest University School of Law); **Nora Rahimzadeh** (Appalachian School of Law); **Rick Kettler** (Charlotte School of Law); **Bonnie Ansley** (NC Central University School of Law); and **Tina Flowers** (Wake Forest University School of Law).

- PHOTOS BY DAVID SOBIE

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LANC NEWS is the newsletter of Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC). Send comments to: *LANC News*, Legal Aid of NC, 224 South Dawson St., Raleigh, NC 27601. Editor: Dock Kornegay. Executive Director: George R. Hausen, Jr., Esq. Legal Aid of North Carolina is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 law firm that provides free legal services to low-income persons in North Carolina through 24 field offices and six statewide projects.

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Bonnie Ansley
Rising 2L
NC Central University
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It has been my privilege this summer to work alongside the dedicated and skilled attorneys and support staff at the Legal Aid of NC-Winston Salem Office. During my time as a law clerk, I have conducted client intake interviews for the Family and HEEC units, drafted wills, observed a SSI and SSDI benefits hearing, visited a homebound client so that she could execute her will, and much more. It has been very exciting. Each and every day there is something new to learn.

I have spent the majority of my time in the family and benefits units. The family unit mainly focuses on domestic violence cases. The benefits unit focuses on drafting documents like wills and power of attorneys and appealing SSI, SSDI, and Medicaid denials or termination of services. I was very impressed with the Family Unit's determination to represent clients in the surrounding counties such as Stokes County. Stokes County is a very rural county and finding free or reduced representation is a luxury there.

During my time in the benefits unit, I was able to help prepare a client's case for his SSI and SSDI appeal hearing and observe the hearing. Although the man was in an extreme amount of pain, it was not a "slam dunk" case. It was important to gather as much evidence as possible, discuss the case with the client, allay his fears by describing exactly what would happen at the hearing and track down his treating physician in order to obtain an opinion letter. While talking to the client, I was able to relate my own testifying experience and give him some tips. That was a wonderful experience because, to me, the one-on-one client time is what makes all the hard work meaningful.

Tracking down the doctor was another story! Let me tell you, it was not an easy task. This particular doctor only worked one day a week at Downtown Health Plaza medical facility, and it seemed like every time I called, he had a new day on which he "only worked." Even human

resources didn't know in which department(s) he worked for the rest of the week. However, I persevered and was rewarded by obtaining the letter in time to submit it to the Administrative Law Judge handling our client's case.

All in all, I have had a truly valuable experience at Legal Aid. I greatly admire the attorneys and support staff who work day in and day out to advocate for people who do not have the resources to advocate effectively for themselves. I am grateful for this opportunity to be a part of an organization that does such good things for the community.

"...I have had a truly valuable experience at Legal Aid. I greatly admire the attorneys and support staff who work day in and day out to advocate for people who do not have the resources to advocate effectively for themselves...."

- Bonnie Ansley



Tina Flowers
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Summer Intern
Rising 3L
Wake Forest University
School of Law

My experience with Legal Aid of NC (LANC) has been rewarding and inspirational. This was my first professional legal experience. As a non-traditional student, I am so grateful to have begun my legal career in this manner.

My caseload, clientele and interactions with the legal aid advocates have truly shaped my perspectives on legal service. The assignments were diverse and challenging, yet simultaneously rewarding and fulfilling.

At the onset of my internship, I was granted the opportunity to work with the Mortgage Foreclosure Project (MFP). I had worked on MFP cases during my clinical work at Wake Forest School of Law's Community Law and Business Clinic in the spring. Utilizing the comprehensive MFP process, I helped a LANC client avoid foreclosure. I felt such joy and satisfaction from the experience that I leapt at the opportunity to work on more MFP cases during the summer.

To my surprise, the MFP cases I worked on during the summer at LANC were much more complex. They required a more expanded set of skills than I had originally anticipated.

(Reflections, continued on page 3)

**Update from Yvette...
Thank you 2011
Summer Law Clerks!**

R. Yvette Stackhouse, Esq.
Managing Attorney, LANC-W/S Office



It's that time of year again. The summer interns are here and our staff is thrilled to have them!

Each year we provide a special edition newsletter written by law school students from several different law schools, most of whom have chosen to volunteer with us.

They share their time, talents, expertise, developing passion and love of learning with us. Our staff and clients are grateful for their service and dedication.

As in past years, you'll read the articles and you'll see our world through a fresh set of eyes. You'll read about how our office is compared to an emergency room where the staff helps to "stop the

bleeding" of the client as we "race against time" to fix the situation.

You'll read about how the law is compared to a language all its own and we are entrusted with the responsibility to translate it for those who don't speak it.

You'll also read about how the work we do here is of value, most certainly for the client, but also to teach the next generation of lawyers what service looks like. They say all of that and much more!

When you finish reading the articles, I'm sure you will truly be amazed at all

"When you finish reading the articles, I'm sure you will truly be amazed at all the wonderful experiences the students have had this summer...."

- Yvette Stackhouse

the wonderful experiences the students have had this summer.

And, while I'll miss them when they

leave, I'm encouraged by these future attorneys who are so impassioned, and are also of such high quality.

Thank you 2011 Summer Interns. You are now part of a growing LANC intern "alumni" that is simply made up of the best!



(Reflections, continued from page 2)

My first MFP case involved a client whose husband had abandoned the home. She was left with a mortgage note that was not in her name. The original lender continued to work with her and even started the loan modification process. However, prior to completing her modification, the loan was sold to another servicer. The new servicer refused to honor her modification or her status as the borrower. In my first week, I not only filed an appeal of a foreclosure order by

"The assignments were diverse and challenging, yet simultaneously rewarding and fulfilling...."

- Tina Flowers

While researching for the case, I learned a great deal about the foreclosure process in North Carolina and its related laws.

In addition to working on actual MFP cases, I also worked on a paper documenting the MFP evolution, development and impact. The process of organizing such a dense body of work through outlining, researching and distilling information was of invaluable benefit in my continued work as a legal advocate. Understanding the development and purpose of the MFP process was

essential to providing each client with the legal recourse available to save their homes.

I found that MFP advocates must put on their advocate and counselor hats with equal fervor. I interviewed clients who were new entrants into the process, to ascertain their legal remedies. I also consoled and reassured clients who were stressed and strained by the sheer complexity of the process. Negotiating a loan modification for distressed clients can be challenging and document-

intensive. However, it was extremely rewarding to help my clients overcome the seemingly insur-

mountable mound of paperwork needed to obtain loan modifications.

Although the majority of my assignments were with the MFP unit, I was also given the opportunity to work in and observe other practice areas as well.

Working under the supervision of one of the HEEC (Housing, Education, Employment, Consumer) Unit advocates, I represented a LANC client in an unemployment benefits hearing. In the first week, I had the opportunity to observe an

(Reflections, continued on page 4)

About Legal Aid of NC

As the only Legal Services Corporation (LSC)-funded program in North Carolina, Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) provides free, community-based, civil legal services in all 100 counties of North Carolina to those whose income falls below **125% of the federal poverty guidelines:**



Size of Family Unit	Maximum Income Level*
1	\$ 13,613
2	\$ 18,388
3	\$ 23,163
4	\$ 27,938
5	\$ 32,713
6	\$ 37,488
7	\$ 42,263
8	\$ 47,038

* [The figures in this table represent 125% of the poverty guidelines by family size as determined by the US Department of Health & Human Services.]

LANC provides legal representation and counseling in **civil (non-criminal) cases only.**

Because of limited resources, LANC's cases are generally limited to those that impact clients' basic needs, including housing, access to medical care, protection from domestic violence, consumer protection and subsistence income.

LANC receives **funding** from LSC, the NC General Assembly and IOLTA (Interest On Lawyers' Trust Accounts). The remaining funds come from Title II funds for Older Americans, United Way, local governments, individual attorneys, foundations and other grants.

Legal Aid of North Carolina offices also recruit and coordinate private attorney (*pro bono*) volunteers through local volunteer lawyers programs (VLP's).

For additional information on Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) and its offices and statewide projects, visit the LANC Internet website: www.legalaidnc.org.



About Summer Internships at Legal Aid of North Carolina

Internships are available at Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) during the summer months for law students who want to gain experience working in a public interest setting and desire an opportunity to do more than just legal research.

Summer internships offer unique situations through which one might better understand the special legal issues facing people who live in poverty and low-income communities. In turn, the summer interns provide valuable and necessary service to the LANC offices/projects in which they are placed.

LANC typically seeks opportunities for its interns to experience direct client contact, participate in administrative hearings (for those certified), draft pleadings and/or work on a case (under supervision).

Types of Internships

- ◆ **Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Internships**
Summer, paid internships for current law students (usually 2L's) to participate in the work of LANC over the traditional 10-week summer internship period.
- ◆ **Work/Study Internships**
Summer internships that are made possible through partnerships with law schools who offer work/study programs and who allow internship performance at LANC to displace loan obligation.
- ◆ **Volunteer Internships**
Summer internships performed entirely on a volunteer (without pay) basis by law students.
- ◆ **Otherwise funded Internships**
Summer internships for which the law student is paid through a source with the understanding that the internship is performed at LANC.

Law students may indicate their interest in serving as a LANC summer intern by sending a letter (expressing your interest and preferences), resume, a writing sample (no more than 10 pages) and names/contact information of three (3) references to:

Legal Aid of North Carolina
Summer Internships
224 South Dawson Street
Raleigh, NC 27601



(Reflections, continued from page 3)

unemployment benefit case from the interview through the hearing. Shortly thereafter, I was assigned my own client. I prepared the direct examination, represented the client at the in-person hearing, and cross examined the employer. However, nothing compared to the sheer joy of receiving the hearing officer's favorable decision. It was so rewarding to know that because of my efforts a client's best interest was served.

Overall, I have been motivated by the attorneys at LANC to give 200% to my clients. I am amazed by the passion, enthusiasm and excellence with which the LANC attorneys serve their clientele. This has motivated me to see the law as more than a set of complicated legal rules. It is a language. Those who are can speak and understand it have a responsibility to guard the interests of those who do not.



Rick Kettler

Rising 3L
Charlotte
School of Law

My time at Legal Aid of North Carolina's (LANC's) Winston-Salem Office was the most valuable and educational experience I have had since starting law school.

During the summer, I was able to work on some fascinating cases but I also felt I was having an impact with the work I was doing. The practice of law is a craft, not a science. That is why I learned more about the law during ten weeks of work than two years of school. The hands-on experience and the interactions with the wonderful attorneys at the office has been an invaluable exposure.

Throughout the summer, I have learned so much from all of the different attorneys (and paralegals) that I have had the pleasure of meeting. Every one of them are excellent role models for us students as we prepare for our future. It is clear that everyone cares for their clients and is passionate about the work that they do. Through their true professionalism and openness, they have taught us interns valuable practical skills.

The clients that come into LANC are

facing incredible difficulties in their lives. They often have little to no money, support, or knowledge of what to do. The clients come in with threats to their basic living needs: health benefits, unemployment, housing, and even domestic violence. From Day One, I was thrown right into their cases. For the Benefits Unit, I was writing letters to clients and different agencies, and drafting medical chronologies. I also got to observe several wills/advance directive signings.

When I got to the Family Unit, I was able to draft letters, interview clients, and observed a variety of court hearings in several different locations. I had the opportunity to do field work when another intern and I went out to take pictures of some property. While viewing court in Stokes County, I had the pleasure of being asked by Chief District Court Judge Charles Neaves if I would assist a pro se litigant in filling out her child support and divorce judgment paperwork.

I was also given the opportunity to represent a client in an unemployment compensation case. I was able to interview the client and do all the research on the case. My supervising attorney took me to an unemployment hearing so I could see the process of a hearing. I then drafted my own direct examination questions and closing arguments in preparation for the hearing. While I have not had the hearing at the time of this writing, the preparation itself was an invaluable learning experience. Taking ownership of my own case and the knowledge given to me by my supervising attorney is priceless. This experience is

"Taking ownership of my own case and the knowledge given to me by my supervising attorney is priceless. This experience is one that will not be soon forgotten...."

- Rick Kettler

one that will not be soon forgotten.

The LANC summer internship has been exciting and worthwhile, and I am thankful for it.

The attorneys and staff have given me a tremendously valuable learning experience, one that I will take with me in my personal and professional life.

My fellow interns were also amazing people that were a true pleasure to work and interact with, and to call friends.

My summer at LANC has reaffirmed my desire to work for the public interest.



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(Reflections, continued from page 4)



Nora Rahimzadeh
Rising 3L
Appalachian
School of Law

This summer you could find me in downtown Winston Salem, at Liberty Plaza, on the fourth floor, tucked away in the back corner and furiously pounding away on my keyboard. My fingers move with such intensity not because I'm angry, but because I'm simultaneously anxious and elated.

Legal Aid is not a place for timid students who lie uneasily in their

beds at night while visions of memos and case files dance in their heads. Attorneys and paralegals expect a great deal from interns, and living up to those standards can seem daunting and frustrating at first. Luckily, their methods are tried and true, and I am happy to report that I have accumulated far more practical experience than many of my classmates.

Since I began my internship in May, I have worked with attorneys and staff in three different units. After a brief introduction, my fellow interns and I immediately dove into a pool of case files. It is perhaps in the Family unit that I had the most contact with clients, and that is mostly due to the fact that I regularly conducted client interviews.

In the Benefits unit, I have served as a witness to a few wills, and on one occasion, I accompanied my supervising attorney and paralegal to a client's home with the purpose of executing a will. Several times, I have conducted research and on a number of occasions, I have helped clients fill out paperwork to appeal a summary ejection to district court. However, most of my time is spent gathering information and reporting what I found to my superiors. Conducting such tasks reminds one of the differences between practicing law and studying the law.

Law school seems to have a strange effect on people. For some reason, students go for months caring only about nebulous concepts, convoluted arguments, and gallons of energy drinks. It isn't until one begins an internship that

one frees oneself from the familiar cocoon of law books and briefs and is pushed back into reality. It is in this reality that people are in danger of losing their homes in the very immediate future. It is in this reality that people suffer through severely abusive relationships. But it is also in this reality that eager and green law school students are given the tools and guidance they need to aid and comfort those among the most desperate of people. The experience is empowering, and with each little victory I claim, I'm relieved that an expensive education is being put to some use.

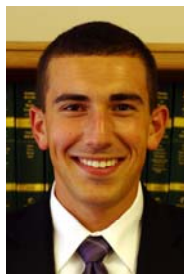
"It isn't until one begins an internship that one frees oneself from the familiar cocoon of law books and briefs and is pushed back into reality..."

- Nora Rahimzadeh

I have previously heard someone liken Legal Aid to an emergency room. Clients with severe

problems and little resources come seeking help, and Legal Aid attorneys and staff "stop the bleeding," if you will. A file leaves the capable hands of the staff member who conducted the intake, lands on a desk and the race against time begins.

Luckily, Legal Aid is not short of talent. There is an incredible amount of knowhow among the staff and attorneys. I am only more than happy to do what they ask and learn what I can.



Villy Stolper
Rising 2L
Wake Forest University
School of Law

When I was three years old, my mother and I emigrated from the Soviet Union in search of a better life.

With only two suit cases and barely enough money to get by for the week, my mother and I were prepared for a difficult transition.

After only a few days in our new country, my mother received a letter from the Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) informing her of the free services it offered to help immigrants establish themselves in the United States. JSSA enrolled my mother and me in free English courses, helped us find an apartment, guided my mother through the process of securing government financial assistance, and put us in contact with

(Reflections, continued on page 6)

Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Summer Internships

An opportunity to make a difference...

Each summer, Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) awards paid internships to current law students to participate in the legal services work over the traditional 10-week summer internship period.

The summer internship program is named in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and is funded in part by contributions from IOLTA, Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company and the NC Bar Association Foundation.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Internship is an integral part of LANC's dual goals to: (1) reduce the inequities in our legal system by ensuring that poor people, minorities and victims of domestic violence receive equal justice; and (2) to initiate new lawyers to the lifelong commitment of providing access to justice for all individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

The MLK program places talented law students into the real world of legal aid advocacy in order to work on actual cases. MLK interns experience client contact, courtroom participation and legal research and writing on actual cases under the supervision of seasoned legal aid attorneys. Each day of the internship, MLK interns are challenged to put classroom training and talent to work on behalf of the many needy individuals that LANC serves and to work creatively to reduce the barriers to a more just society. Each MLK intern is treated as a valuable member of the legal staff and is expected to participate in case strategy and contribute to overall case management.

LANC typically places summer MLK interns in each of the 24 LANC field offices and in the offices of Advocates for Children Services (Durham) and the Farmworker Unit (Raleigh).

Applications for MLK Summer Internships: Initial review of applicants typically begins October 30th prior to the summer of employment. For additional information, visit the "Internships" webpage of the LANC Internet website:

www.legalaidnc.org/public/participate/internships.aspx



Staff

LANC-Winston-Salem Office

Our staff provides legal assistance in civil matters (non-criminal matters) to eligible, low-income clients who have problems with their basic needs and live in the six-county area surrounding Winston-Salem, NC: Davie County, Forsyth County, Iredell County, Stokes County, Surry County and Yadkin County.

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Margaret A. Moll
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Takeisha Redd
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David A. Sobie
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Lisa Brace White
Staff Attorney

Gray W. Wilson
Technology Specialist

Jean L. Witherspoon
PAI Coordinator

Nikki A. Worthy
Paralegal



(Reflections, continued from page 5)

other agencies that could help us further. It was because of this experience with JSSA that I decided to go to law school and work for a place like Legal Aid of NC (LANC).

When I came in for my first day at LANC, it started off just like any other first day at a new job—a "meet and greet" followed by a brief orientation. It ended, however, with an almost overwhelming stack of files. I could not believe that they were entrusting me, a mere law student, with real

peoples' legal problems. My first assignment was to help reinstate a client's Section 8 housing voucher. Given no

more than a file full of information and a brief background, I got to work. I dug through the file to better understand the issue at hand. I called the client and spoke to her—she was behind on rent and worried about getting evicted, her life was a wreck and she really needed help. I felt overwhelmed. I told her I would look into the issue and call her back.

I began researching. After I identified the relevant statute, I quickly found myself on the client's side: the Housing Authority was wrong to cancel the client's assistance! I could not let this stand, but what could I do? I located a list of employees at the office of Housing and Urban Development in Washington D.C. and called every number until someone would talk to me. I was thrilled to finally get someone to listen to my concern. They put me on hold, and then dropped the call. After spending half the day on the phone, I finally found myself on the other line with someone who could help: the manager of the office that made the determination that the client was no longer eligible for the housing voucher. I voiced my concern, repeating for what felt like the one-hundredth time that day the relevant language from the statute. The man listened politely and then said that he would have to call me back at some later time.

I felt defeated. I'll make a poor advocate, I thought to myself. But when the phone rung, it was the manager again and this time he had the whole office on the other line waiting to hear my argument.

Half an hour later I walked into my first case review meeting with the HEEC unit. The managing attorney asked me to introduce myself and to begin by discussing

the cases I was working on.

"Well," I began nervously, "I've only worked on this one client's case today, but I just got off a conference call with the Housing Authority and they said that they would reinstate the client's Section 8 housing voucher."

The small group applauded me as a sense of overwhelming accomplishment ran through my body. Not because I was able to successfully complete my first assignment, but because I was able to make a significant positive impact in someone else's life.

A few days later, after everything was finalized, I called the client to give her the good news and she cried over the phone. She thanked me for everything LANC was able to do for her — for helping get her life back on track.

It is this first experience that truly characterizes my clerkship at LANC. Throughout the summer, I have enjoyed the privilege of going home at the end of every day knowing that I worked hard to make a difference in someone else's life.

"I could not believe that they were entrusting me, a mere law student, with real peoples' legal problems...."

- Villy Stolper

Crystal Sumner
Rising 3L
Elon University
School of Law



It has always been a passion of mine to work with those that are less fortunate. Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) was the perfect opportunity to use my education to do just that. It was such a rewarding summer. I could actually see my work helping people that found themselves in tough situations.

One of the best aspects of the summer internship with LANC in Winston-Salem was the rotation schedule. We weren't tied to one particular area all summer—we split our time evenly throughout the Benefits, HEEC and Family units. At times, it proved

"One of the best aspects of the summer internship with LANC in Winston-Salem was the rotation schedule. We weren't tied to one particular area all summer...."

- Crystal Sumner

to be busy, challenging, and hectic, yet it was always rewarding. Sometimes we did

simple tasks such as draft letters or pull records from the clerk's office. Other times, the work was much more demanding. I interviewed potential clients during intake, researched topics with little to no precedent,

(Reflections, continued on page 7)

(Reflections, continued from page 6)

and often spoke with adverse parties to get their side of the story and even advocate or negotiate on behalf of our client.

For me, one of the most challenging aspects of this job was learning to separate myself from some of the clients. They had the most heart-wrenching stories. Listening to them and helping the client through the situation was often very emotionally draining. Because it is so important to me to be able to help as many people faced with these tough situations as possible, I had to learn to help the client and move on. If I could help, it was great! If I couldn't help, then I had to push through so that I could move on to the next client that needed assistance.

"I will never forget my experience at LANC, the things I learned or the people I met...."

- Tiffany Tyler

I wish that LANC had more resources to help everyone; but, unfortunately, because we don't, many people are turned away.

I am so grateful to have worked with such an amazing group of people. From the fellow interns, to support staff, to paralegals and attorneys I learned so much. In law school we are taught to think like lawyers, but not how to actually be an attorney. It was wonderful to learn about the day-to-day activities of an actual attorney and to be able to put my education to use.

It is amazing to work with people who have dedicated their lives to helping and empowering others. I have made a wonderful group of friends here. In fact, we think of our intern corner as a little family working and learning together!

I am forever grateful for my experience here and am proud to say that I worked with LANC and was able to give back to the community.



Tiffany Tyler
 Rising 2L
 Wake Forest University
 School of Law

Working in Legal Aid of North Carolina's (LANC's) Winston-Salem office this summer has been such a great experience and has strengthened my desire to become an attorney. I have learned so much here about the legal profession.

Several years ago, my stepdad was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He and my mother could not afford health insurance and had very little in savings. Watching their struggle and trying to help them out

was what made me decide to become an attorney and to help people who need legal assistance but cannot afford to hire a lawyer. Working with LANC this summer gave me the opportunity to assist the very people I came to law school to help.

I worked first with the Family Law Unit, working primarily with victims of domestic violence. I originally was nervous about working in this unit because I thought that it would be emotionally difficult to hear all the stories of domestic violence. However, after about a week of doing client interviews and attending court hearings, I found the

experience to be really rewarding. Many of the victims simply wanted someone to listen to their story and to help them

protect themselves and their families from the abuser. Working at LANC allowed me to be a part of this process.

Another great experience that I had while in the Family Law Unit was to help a woman with a discovery response. The defendant's attorney had requested that she answer numerous interrogatories, requests for admissions, and requests for production. The woman, not understanding what she needed to do, called LANC to assist her. I was able to draft the responses in the proper format, allowing the woman to submit her response by the deadline.

I next worked in the HEEC unit. Most of my time was focused on researching and drafting a memorandum regarding a sexual harassment case between a landlord and tenant. Another case on which I spent quite a bit of time was about a landlord who wanted to evict a tenant (our client). The attorney for the case asked me to call the landlord to try to negotiate more time for our client to move out before he filed for eviction. Although I was really nervous, I was able to successfully negotiate the settlement agreement with the landlord. It was such a great feeling knowing that I had helped the client.

I will never forget my experience at LANC, the things I learned or the people I met. The attorneys, paralegals and other staff members are what make LANC a great place to work. They are so dedicated to their jobs, to the clients, and to helping the law students learn as much as possible. I have learned a lot from them, and I hope that I can be just like them when I become an attorney in a couple years.

Thank you for a great summer!



Units & Areas of Law

LANC-Winston-Salem Office

Family Law Unit

Family Law: Domestic Violence Protective Orders; No Contact Orders for Stalking or Non-consensual Sexual Conduct; Emergency/Temporary Child Custody.

HEEC Unit

(Housing, Education, Employment, Consumer)

Housing (private & subsidized): Illegal padlocking; illegal utility shut-off; repair issues; evictions; denial of subsidized housing.

Education: School suspensions and expulsions.

Employment: Unemployment compensation hearings; discrimination claims; expungement of criminal records; wrongful termination.

Consumer: Repossession of vehicles; judgment collection (exemptions); bankruptcy (Chapters 13 and 7 only); predatory lending; unfair trade practices and other consumer matters.

Mortgage Foreclosure Project: Representation in foreclosure actions involving low-income families.

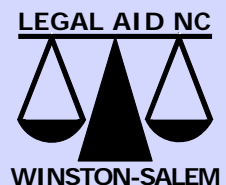
Public Benefits Unit

Disability: SSI/SSDI and Medicaid denials and benefits; overpayment, reduction and termination issues.

Food Stamps/Work First: Food stamp denials, reduction, and overpayment issues; Work First termination, non-compliance issues.

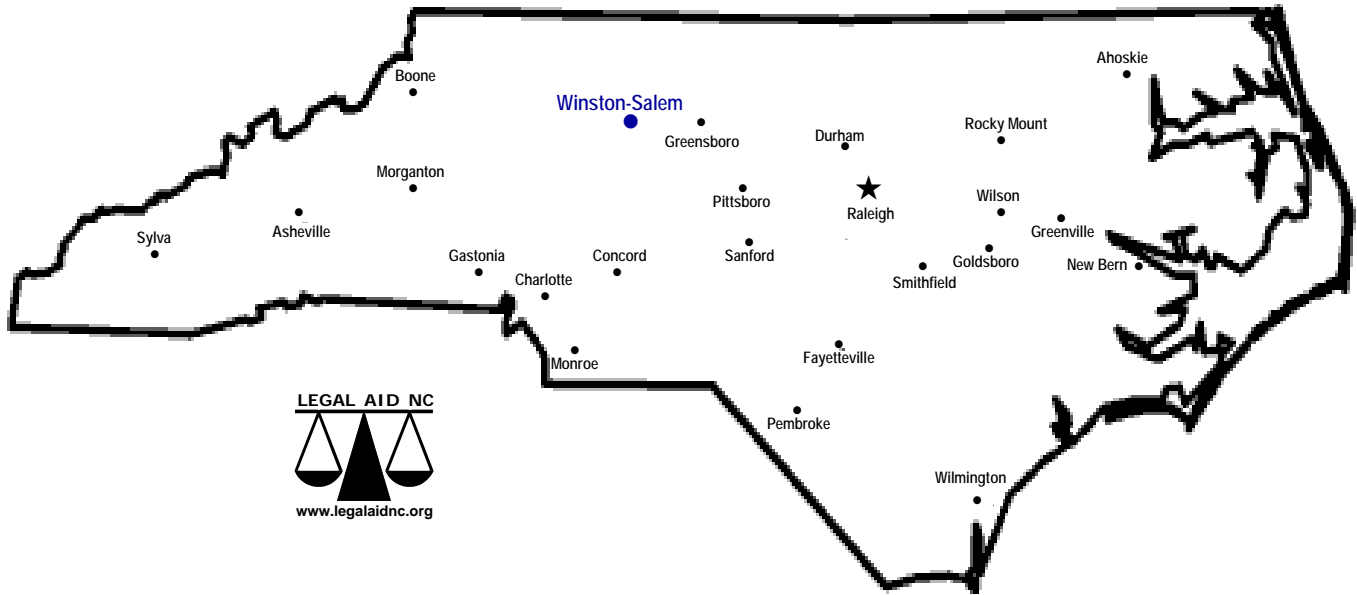
For questions, call the LANC-Winston-Salem Office, 336-725-9162, or visit the LANC-Winston-Salem Office webpage at:

www.legalaidnc.org/winstonsalem



Legal Aid of North Carolina Offices

Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC) is a statewide, nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in civil matters to eligible, low-income people in all 100 counties in North Carolina through 24 geographically located offices.



Thank you Summer 2011 Law Clerks!



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