

Weekly Report 5

9/17 - 9/23

Soft Skills

This week was geared more towards working on soft skills that are necessary for interacting with professionals in a real world environment. Becoming well-versed in personal skills is just as important as becoming well-versed in my topic. Especially as an aspiring lawyer, learning ways in which to be personable and professional is of the utmost importance. Dressing appropriately, treating the judge with respect, and helping witnesses come across as likeable to the jury can all play a huge factor in the outcome of a case. In addition, in order to obtain an interview from a professional, someone of my age needs to come across as exceptionally professional to overcome the stereotype that may be attached to a high school student.

The main goals for this week included researching another subtopic of criminal law to learn about and working on personal skills. The topic that seemed the most fascinating had to do with evaluating whether justice could be bought with money. The articles talked about how more money can buy better lawyers and provide better resources that help win a case. This topic especially stuck out because it was consistent with many past articles I read that talked about the injustice within the Justice system. Taking this into account, there are many ways in which to contribute to correcting these faults of the justice system in my community. One possible solution would be joining an Innocence project in the Dallas area that would allow me to volunteer my time to help exonerate people who were wrongly convicted due to a lack of funds to build an adequate case.

Another crucial learning aspect of this week involved practicing introducing myself to adults and carrying a conversation. While starting a conversation with a stranger started out difficult, as the conversation continued, it became easier to converse and create a relationship with the person. Putting myself in situations outside of my comfort zone will help me grow as a person and a professional. Next week, my goal is to expand on the knowledge gained this week to solidify a plan for a possible original work piece that can have a positive effect on my community.