

## Weekly Report 4

9/10 - 9/16

### Heading Towards the Real World

This week while doing research, the focus was directed at how the information will affect my learning rather than just collecting information. To accomplish this, the research this week was directed towards the downfalls of the justice system because it demonstrated the possible negatives of pursuing a career in law. The most important thing that came out of this research was that rather than finding the information to be discouraging, researching the negatives of the legal system actually inspired me to find a solution to help minimize the negative effects of the justice system. During this week, brainstorming ideas on how to transform this inspiration into a specific way of helping people took priority. One of the ideas was to find an Innocence Project in the Dallas area that would allow me to help exonerate people that had been falsely accused of a criminal crime. Doing this project would allow for giving back to the community, expanding my knowledge on criminal law, and working with professionals in the legal field.

Another task that was practiced this week, was preparing to meet professionals and conduct phone calls and interviews. While writing potential questions to ask professionals, it became evident that the questions needed to be more in depth to optimize my learning. Since it has already been established that pursuing a career in law is something I have interest in, the best way to learn effectively would be to direct questioning more towards knowledge that a successful lawyer must possess. While learning the schedule and demands of a criminal lawyer is helpful information, asking questions that are catered to the type of lawyer being interviewed will help to collect the most useful knowledge. The main goal of next week is to hone my skills in interacting over the phone and in person in order to receive an interview. In order to do this, it is extremely important to remain composed and not let the word “no” deter me. I am extremely excited to start talking to professionals to expand my knowledge about criminal law, as well as experience the real world application of the law.