

Weekly Report 13
11/26 - 12/2
Finding A Mentor

This week began with an incredibly informative interview with Ms. Sandra Phillips Rogers who serves as the General Counsel for Toyota. Ms. Phillips was able to provide a unique perspective on the differences between working for a private law firm and working as in-house counsel. Up to this point, my focus has always been directed towards working for a law firm, but there are so many different options out there. Learning about the different responsibilities of working as in-house counsel compared to in a law firm was something that was interesting to hear about. Besides having a successful interview, my goals for this week mostly pertained to my original work and writing new articles. It was especially difficult to come up with new topics that were different from past articles yet still similar enough to be part of one issue. Deciding what to write about is always the most challenging part, but once a topic is chosen and ample research is done, the article is much easier to complete.

However, my original work is not as far along as what was originally planned, so in order to catch up, this week is going to include a new approach. Instead of writing an article, this week will be dedicated to coming up with all of the article topics for the rest of the issue. Hopefully, this will make it easier to stay on schedule in the future as time will not be wasted trying to come up with a new topic each week. My work ethic this week was much better than the prior week and it allowed for more time to do research related to my original work and make calls for interviews.

My goal for the upcoming two weeks is to obtain a mentor. Even though the interviews have helped to expand my knowledge of criminal law, I have not yet found someone who would be a suitable mentor. However, after doing two interviews at the Collin County DA's office, it was clear that obtaining a mentor who works at the DA's office could be a perfect fit as it would allow for hands-on experience and exposure to trial work. As trial work is one of my main interests regarding the law, it is important to me that a potential mentor can provide insightful knowledge about litigation. To successfully complete this goal, it is necessary to set up more interviews at the DA's office to see if any of the prosecutors there would be a good fit for a potential mentor.