

Weekly Report 18

1/21 - 1/27

Picking A Final Product

This week was mostly spent deciding on a project to start for Final Product. Since my legal journal for Original Work proved to be incredibly beneficial to broadening my knowledge of law, writing the second and third issues of the legal journal would be a good idea for Final Product. Additionally, after having done ample research, interviews, and some mentor visits, my new knowledge would allow for an issue that is more closely connected to criminal law. On top of coming up with ideas for Final Product, the main goal for this week was to successfully make contact with the Court Appointed Special Advocates program to see if it would be possible to volunteer in any capacity. Since my mentor previously worked in the Crimes Against Children department in the District Attorney office, we discussed possible ways to volunteer since advocates have to be 21 or older. She suggested reaching out to a Children's Advocacy Center that helps children who have been abused. My mentor has contacts with both organizations and offered to reach out to see what help the organizations need.

My work ethic this week was pretty good, but one thing that does need to get better is working on projects that do not have deadlines. For example, the Final Product is not due anytime soon, so it has been difficult to get any work done or start brainstorming ideas. One possible solution for this is to set personal deadlines along the way to ensure that steady work is completed. In addition, for future mentor visits, more time needs to be spent prior to the visit researching topics to question my mentor about. Since Ms. Crystal has an abundance of knowledge as a prosecutor, asking her about topics that interest me would be the best way to obtain real-world knowledge from someone who has a large amount of experience.

For this upcoming week, the main goal is to do more research into the Crimes Against Children department. After talking to my mentor and looking into the CASA program, it has become clear that the Crimes Against Children department is a part of criminal law that interests me. Doing interviews with attorneys in that department or watching court cases related to that topic can help broaden my knowledge of different divisions within criminal law. Something that still needs to be figured out is what type of criminal law is most suitable for me. The best way to figure this out is to experience different types of criminal law (misdemeanor/felony or prosecution/defense) to determine my favorite.