

Weekly Report 9

10/15 - 10/21

First Interview

This week was the first opportunity to go out in the real world and talk to lawyers who have ample experience in the legal field. My first interview this week was with Ms. Mary Hartsfield, an insurance attorney in Dallas. Even though the interview was not about criminal law, it was interesting to see the reasons behind pursuing another topic of law that has very different responsibilities. The main goal for this week was to have a successful and informative interview. After gaining a considerable amount of new knowledge from the interview, I feel that my goal was accomplished. The interview also helped solidify my knowledge that criminal law is a suitable legal speciality that encompasses many of the attractive qualities of law. It also convinced me to keep an open mind and investigate different specialties of law as there are so many.

Managing time this week was more difficult than usual due to the fact that the interview was scheduled for the latter part of the week. This left the beginning part of the week to calling other professionals to set up additional interviews and finalizing my idea for the original work project. After coming up with an idea for the original work project, it was necessary to begin the basic research needed for setting up my original work. Much of my time in the upcoming weeks will be dedicated to doing research to complete my original work, so it is essential that the original work is something that is interesting and engaging to write about.

Another great aspect of the interview this week was it provided me with additional contacts to set up future interviews. After calling additional professionals, an interview was set up for next week with a judge that presides over criminal cases. The judge also offered to let me watch one of her cases after the interview which is extremely exciting. While having done Mock Trial in the past, I have not had the opportunity to watch a real case before. The goal for next week is to learn more information geared towards criminal law specifically rather than law in general. Talking to a Judge will also provide interesting insight to trial work as the Judge will have a different viewpoint than criminal lawyers.