

Learning Plan

Throughout my summer internship at the San Francisco District Attorney's office I hope to achieve the following learning objectives:

- a) To learn more about clerical tasks which include organizing and preparing case files for attorneys going to trial, contacting witnesses, conversing with victims of crimes, managing the subpoenas, and creating briefs for certain cases. Given that I am pre-law and that I am still unsure about what sort of law I wish to pursue, I hope this internship provides me with the knowledge necessary to make a decision about pursuing or not pursuing criminal law. I can achieve this learning objective by asking my supervisor to assign me tasks which will offer me insight into the criminal justice system and how criminal law is practiced. I can also find an attorney at the office who is willing to mentor me. By doing this, I can ask them questions about the most rewarding parts of their job, and also the most difficult. I believe that receiving this form of mentorship will give me direct insight into what being an attorney in criminal law entails and inform my future decisions.
- b) To acquire knowledge and skills which will help me with conflict resolution, problem-solving, and public service leadership. I also hope to strengthen my skills as a public speaker by watching attorneys argue cases in court. I believe that I can acquire these skills by reading cases and asking other attorneys how they usually prepare their case theories and craft their arguments. By learning more about the criminal justice system and its relationship with the community I can also learn how to serve the public and be a leader for them. Given that I am a minority and that my community is a victim of mass incarceration I would also like to learn about how the criminal justice system can be improved to become more restorative rather than punitive.
- c) To develop attitudes and values which will make me more empathetic, social-justice driven, empowering, and kind. While I am at the District Attorney's office, I am aware that I will see and hear about situations which are sensitive, disappointing, and hurtful. Thus, I hope to become a more empathetic person so that I can perceive situations through distinct perspectives. I would also like to take use knowledge from this internship in order to fight for justice in the future and be kind to the public, especially to those in need. I hope to develop these attitudes and values by becoming more reflective and always asking myself how I can better serve my community. I also wish to implement these values to my everyday life and not simply the career aspect of my life.

Overall, I am really excited to be working at the San Francisco District Attorney's Office. I will know whether I am meeting these objectives by journaling and writing down the new things which I learn every week. I will also ask my supervisor to provide bi-weekly evaluations for me with this learning plan in mind so that they can keep me accountable and ask me about my progress. When this occurs I vow to be honest with my supervisor and with myself.