

One for the Books!

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Really hard to believe that it has already been a week since I wrote my last post. Even more difficult to believe that it's been just short of a month since my first day of work. Time flies when you're having fun, and this summer keeps flying faster.

The focus of this past week was closing arguments, escape rooms, and baseball. We kicked off Monday evening with a virtual escape room. I thought it would be impossible to do over Zoom, but they did an excellent job in seamlessly facilitating the event. The Escape Room company provided an employee who was on site with a camera, adhering to our requests to look around the room and focus on certain objects. I worked alongside other Summer Associates to find hidden numbers and codes to eventually uncover a stolen painting and escape in one hour without being noticed. As we cracked combinations and solved some bizarre puzzles, we managed to complete the assignment in about 56 minutes. We were all excited to have reached the finish line before time expired.

The next day, we attended an opening/closing statement seminar led by partner Rob Blank. This was one of my favorite seminars thus far and the best part of any trial. Rob went over the ins and outs of performing an opening and closing, best practices for doing so (online and in-person) and gave us some real life examples from his own experience. Shortly after the seminar, we received our materials to conduct our own closing argument. The issue-based on a real case-involved a motor vehicle accident between the Plaintiff passenger and a commercial truck owned by the Defendant. The collision occurred at a low speed and lasted just a few seconds. I was tasked with arguing on behalf of the defense; a role I embraced enthusiastically. My hours of preparation culminated into what I felt to be a strong closing argument. In fact, I was so invested in the case that I ended up running out of time when I was just about 75% done with the subject matter. Nonetheless, notwithstanding my failure to abide by time restrictions, I had fun performing in front of Rob and my peers.

Last but not least, on Thursday evening, Summer Associate Harris and I went out to the Miami Marlin's game with some other attorneys from the firm. We had the privilege of watching the game in some fantastic seats, within 15 rows from home plate. Unfortunately, however, we sat through nine innings only to watch my beloved Marlins lose. However, the good company and experience made it all worthwhile.

And yes, I did do substantive work outside of all these events. I continue to work on two motions for summary judgment involving a premises liability issue and a breach of

contract dispute, in addition to spontaneous research assignments scattered throughout the week.

This was a week for the books. Looking forward to what's next!