

First Week was Eventful to Say the Least

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As I sit down and begin writing, it dawns upon me that I have already completed my first week of the 2021 Summer Associate Program. I can't help but think back on the obstacles and challenges this past year has brought. From virtual classes and trials to unorthodox interviews and first impressions, I have finally taken a deep breath, grateful for where I am and the lessons I have learned along the way.

This first week at RumbergerKirk has been eventful to say the least. The day we arrived and began our Summer Associate positions also happened to coincide with the planned return of the attorneys, paralegals, and staff. The halls, which were once blanketed with a quiet and empty atmosphere, were replaced with vibrant smiles and uninterrupted conversations, with us thrown right in the mix.

We began our first morning with breakfast amongst all the attorneys and staff. I remember vividly that I had barely enough time between introductions to scarf down my sausage breakfast wrap. As we walked into our respective new offices, I was met with emails, onboarding documents, and training seminars. After a while of navigating through my schedule and organizing my work, I was surprised to see that it was already lunchtime. At lunch, we were introduced to our mentors and participated in a fun icebreaker. My mentor is partner Brett Carey, and as it turns out, we have much more in common than we originally thought, Go Gators! After lunch, we continued on with our orientation training throughout the day.

Wednesday and Thursday brought more training and more introductions. As the week progressed, I slowly began to receive more assignments and more opportunities to apply those skills that I picked up in law school. I began settling into my new routine and could not hold back my excitement for the new experiences that I would gain from this summer program.

Friday was the first day without training on the schedule, the first day that I could begin tackling new projects and completing old ones. As lunch time came upon me, I just remembered that I had forgot to make lunch or, at the very least, plans. However, to my surprise, I was asked to lunch by my mentor, Brett Carey, and associate Patrick Delaney. We ate at a great restaurant within walking distance of the office. I had a Hawaiian burger, and let me tell you, it was incredible. We walked back to the office and I continued researching cases for a motion and analyzing how they could be used to eventually write one. It is so great to begin working on real-time cases and having the opportunity to apply my law knowledge to a multitude of issues. This first week at RumbergerKirk was everything I had imagined, and more! Did I mention it was only four days?