

Work, Happy Hour and More Work

Harris Blum, University of Miami

The pace accelerated last week, and I'm happy to be in a rhythm. In my second blog post, I discussed a hearing that partner Josh Lerner had in an ejectment case. After that hearing, the judge postponed the trial. The plaintiff then filed a motion for summary judgment. Should the judge grant that motion, she will enter an order evicting our client from their property—a harsh remedy, to say the least. Even with those being the stakes, Josh asked me to draft our response. The pressure is on! Partner Steve Smith also asked me to draft a motion for summary judgment in a complex construction defect case. I'll have my work cut out for me over the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, on Thursday, Managing Partner Frank Sheppard, Orlando partner Suzanne Hill, and COO Joseph Mulé (the firm's executive committee) joined the Miami office for lunch and happy hour. During lunch, partner Suzanne Singer presented about taking depositions. Her presentation was fun and informative. In particular, Suzanne's advice about adopting your own style for depositions resonated with me. Based on the way Suzanne describes her style, I hope I have a chance to sit in and watch her take a deposition soon. After Suzanne finished presenting, Frank Sheppard took over and discussed the firm's successes over the last year, the pandemic notwithstanding. He then advertised the firm's upcoming retreat to Naples, which sounds like a lot of fun. It's clear that the firm values comradery and collegiality.

On Thursday afternoon, we walked to American Social for a happy hour. I had a great time, and I especially appreciated seeing everyone in that kind of environment. Going into week four, my connections with my co-workers are growing stronger—a huge win. In addition to the two motions I have to draft, I also have a motion workshop on Monday, where I will argue a motion against Meghan Kennedy, another summer associate. I can't wait!