

A Ballgame and Closing Statements, a Great Week

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Motion practice, opening and closing statements, a Marlins game, and a whole lot of work. Last week kicked off with a motion practice workshop. We were asked to argue a motion to compel arbitration. Orlando Partner Dan Gerber served as the judge, and my fellow-summer associate Meghan Kennedy and I went head to head. I have to hand it to Meghan—she did a fantastic job, especially with Dan asking her some tough questions.

On Tuesday, Partner Rob Blank lectured on opening and closing statements. This was new for me. Unlike the motion practice workshop, which closely resembled my moot court experiences, Rob's lecture offered a window into the life of a trial lawyer. I have to say, there are more theatrics involved than I anticipated. I had the chance to deploy Rob's teachings on Friday during our closing statement workshop. I represented the plaintiff, and I did my best to tell an emotional tale about my client. On the other hand, Andres Chinchilla, who argued for the defendant, one-upped me. I guess that's too be expected—after all, he's been participating in mock trial since before he could walk.

The highlight of last week was Thursday night—the Marlins game. It's great getting to know my co-workers in that type of environment. Hats off to partner Doug Ede and associate Loren Korin, in particular, for showing us a great time. Apparently, the reason you lick salt before drinking tequila is because the salt lessens the burn. You learn something new every day, right? I can't wait to see what's in store for next week!