

Each Week Gets Better Than the Last

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My second week as a Summer Associate at RumbergerKirk has flown by! I've had less free time, but I really enjoy having so many interesting things to work on. I had to balance several projects on very different topics that were due this week, and I got good experience managing my time, planning things out, and prioritizing tasks so that I could get them all done on time. All of the attorneys I worked with gave me helpful feedback once I turned in the projects. I feel like this week has given me a great insight into what the day-to-day practice of law will be like.

I also got an opportunity to get to know the Birmingham office better this week. Throughout the week, people would pop into my office to ask if I wanted to go to lunch with them or talk about a case. On Tuesday night, I went to get drinks with several of the attorneys in the office, and we had a great time! I really enjoyed seeing everyone outside the normal work environment and learning more about them. They also gave me great advice about starting out as a young attorney and some books to fill up my desk, which has been a little empty before now.

On Tuesday, the summer associates had our deposition seminar and workshop. I was really nervous about this because I'd never seen a real deposition before, much less taken one. Darryl Gavin, a partner in the firm, gave us great advice about how to take or defend a deposition, what types of questions you should ask, and how to outline your approach. As I prepared to depose him (acting in the role of plaintiff) on Thursday morning, I was very worried that I would embarrass myself somehow or miss a big part of the case. Once I started taking the deposition, though, it wasn't nearly as bad as I thought it would be! Darryl's tips were great, and I was able to apply them during the deposition. Once I was done, Darryl gave me helpful feedback and told me that you improve after every deposition you give until you're completely comfortable with them. It was so great to get advice and be able to practice in front of someone who has so much legal experience! I'm so glad the other associates and I are getting opportunities to do these workshops. I think I'll be much more confident when I have to take my first real deposition now that I've gotten a chance to practice.