

## ***A Winning Week All Around***

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“Work hard, play hard!” is the best way to summarize how Week Four went. On Monday, I received a motion to dismiss to write from associate Patrick Delaney. This motion was tricky at first because it dealt with Virginia law, which is very different from what I am used to here in Florida. Nevertheless, after circumventing a few rabbit holes, I found my ground and took off with the motion. After I finished the motion, I went into Patrick’s office to discuss and finalize the edits. I have to say- I have never seen anyone faster with a keyboard and a word document. It was really impressive.

In addition to the motion, this week contained a workshop for opening and closing statements. Tampa partner Rob Blank, educated us in his seamless practice. Surprisingly, this was totally different than what I have learned as a member on trial team. In real life, you don’t have weeks to sit and memorize a script for everything you plan to say at trial. Indeed, Rob told us that generally we should expect to have our closings finalized the night before, read it over at least once, and then go for it at trial. So that is what I did. This is because Thursday night we went to the Orange County Bar Association Young Lawyers & Law Clerks reception and our closing statements workshop was set for Friday morning in Tampa.

The motion I was working on for Patrick was time sensitive, so all of my efforts were going to that before I moved on to my closing statement. I had about half of my closing written by the time of the reception on Thursday. Even though my closing was looming over my head, I really enjoyed meeting other law students, associates, and partners at the reception. Moreover, I became acquainted with a number of judges sitting on the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida and some even invited me to their upcoming trials! Stay tuned to hear about those!

I got home around 8:00 pm and power hour commenced. I cranked out the remaining portion of my closing, read it over once, and went to bed. The next morning, although I feared the worst, my closing ended up going great! In fact, my closing sparked some ideas in Rob for a future closing statement of his! If I had to pick, I would say this is my greatest accomplishment thus far at RumbergerKirk. Many thanks to the attorneys and employees that sat as the jury for our statements, your comments were greatly appreciated.

After our closings, the Orlando summer associates made the most out of our work trip to Tampa and went to Game 7 of the Stanley cup finals. Rob Blank had shared with us one of his superstitions at Amalie Arena, so we all partook in it as well. And what do you know? The lightning won! Go Bolts!! Go RumbergerKirk!!