

My Memo May be Used as a Template for All Offices!

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Yet another week has gone by in the blink of an eye. We are now officially halfway done with the Summer Associate Program!

Partner Steve Smith kicked off the week with a Direct and Cross examination seminar. He prepared an extensive PowerPoint presentation on all the do's and don'ts of examining a witness; plenty to prepare us for our workshop just two days later. During our workshop, I had the privilege of conducting a direct examination on the man himself, Steve Smith. He played a neutral, non-party eye witness to the accident at issue. I prepared an outline, printed out an exhibit, and did my best to get out all the evidence that was needed for the defense. All in all, the direct was about 7 minutes and couldn't have gone any better. There were a few times that Steve tried to throw me off a bit, but I stayed calm and re-directed him back to his prior testimony. Overall, it was a great experience.

Aside from the presentation and workshop, it was business as usual. I continued working on a motion for summary judgment on a breach of contract issue and drafted an extensive memo on waiver of right to arbitration. The latter was particularly exciting because I was told that it may be used as a template for future litigation across all offices. The issue was time sensitive so I got to work right away. I compiled case law from all over Florida, identified conduct that constitutes waiver, exposed a circuit split, and provided an in-depth analysis on the case at hand. I finished the memo on Friday after about three days of work. Of course, these monster assignments were coupled with some smaller tasks like research or drafting discovery motions, giving me an opportunity to engage in every facet of litigation.

The week ended a bit short as we were permitted to leave the office on Friday at 3 PM, and are not coming back until Tuesday. A head start to a nice long weekend!