

## ***Preparing for Mock Trial while Balancing Work Assignments***

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Last week was probably the busiest yet. After receiving our mock trial prompt the week before, we hit the ground running in preparation. We had three practices during the week and focused on honing in our theories and themes. Independently, my trial partner Joe and I have been drafting our examinations and speeches to rehearse during practice. I am lucky to have coaches Associate Melissa Softness, Partner Chase Hattaway, and Partner Samantha Duke to guide us through the process. Preparation has been a bit different from my prior experience with mock trials. Instead of balancing practice with classes we have to balance our time with actual work, which is not easing up much. It is certainly a good practice for the future when we'll have to prepare for trial amidst our regular case load.

Outside of mock trial preparation I worked on a number of projects. The most interesting of which was drafting a motion in limine for Partner Mike Holt. The motion was to exclude certain documents as hearsay in a product liability suit. I spent a considerable amount of time researching, drafting, and speaking with Mike about the arguments. I finished it over the weekend and am looking forward to comparing my draft with the final product.

This week we also had a firm happy hour at Riverside. This was an opportunity for all the attorneys to meet over some drinks and food, along with our significant others. We had an excellent turnout with almost every attorney in the Miami office present. It was great to spend some time with everyone outside of the office in a nice venue by the water.

Now, it's time to get back to work and start finalizing these examinations for the mock trial next week!