***Real-World Experience and Mock Trial Practice***

Elizabeth Pearce, Florida State University

Things continue to get busy as the mock trial gets closer! I’ve been prepping with my mentor, Kayla Platt Rady and working through the issues in the mock trial packet. I have had to put in some extra time learning the evidence code. Kayla and I have had mini “lessons” in evidence that have helped me get a much better understanding of the more nuanced issues that have come up during practices. She’s gone above and beyond to help me feel my best for the trial next week! Also, David Marsey has given me really constructive trial advice that has helped me craft my opening and closing statements.

While the focus of this week has been the trial, I was able to do some really interesting legislative research for David. In order to complete the assignment I actually had to go to the state archives to access legislative history from the early 1990’s. Because I am a bit of a political nerd, I found this assignment to be really exciting. It was also cool to go to the archives since I had never been before.

Another fun part of the week was getting to sit in on a deposition with Kayla. It was a really good way to see how a deposition should be executed in real life. It also helped me think about how to formulate questions for the direct examination part of the mock trial. I am very thankful I got to see experienced attorneys taking depositions. I’ve said this many times now throughout my posts this summer but there is nothing like the real-world experience summer associates get here at RumbergerKirk.