

End of Summer

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Writing my final blog post is a bittersweet feeling. This summer has been challenging, overwhelming at times, and busy. My summer breaks have always meant beaches, traveling, golf, and down time. This summer was quite the opposite of what I am used to. This summer was a glimpse into the life of a first-year associate at a big defense firm. This was my first full-time job. It was not always easy. I was tasked with some difficult and important assignments. But through all the assignments, hours and stress, I can honestly say I had a great time this summer. RumbergerKirk puts on an exceptional summer program. My assignments were not just busy work. I was drafting and researching for legitimate issues in ongoing matters. It felt good to be able to contribute to something important. Amongst the assignments were the workshops and practical skill seminars. Plus, the Tampa office hosted a happy hour or social event almost every week. I was able to work hard but also have a lot of fun.

The cherry on top of the whole summer was the mock trial competition. The mock trial competition was in-person in the Orlando office. Me and the other summer associates from across the firm traveled to Orlando on Sunday where we learned what sides we were representing and began to practice. After practice on Sunday, we all went out to dinner together. Being able to meet and socialize with the other summer associates was a blast. We all got along with each other and truly had a great time. Monday was the actual competition. Harris Blum and I represented the Plaintiff. We fought hard trying to win our case. The trial was a battle of objections as there was a lot of evidence and exhibits that raised difficult issues. Harris and I prepared hard, performed well, and it all paid off. We were awarded best team out of the four teams that competed. We were both surprised and proud to have won this. We celebrated completing the trial competition with an office happy hour. After happy hour, we all walked over to a bar nearby and had some more drinks. We finished the night with some delicious sushi. It was a great trip overall.