

Week Three-Motion Practice, Fun Outings and Fascinating Observation Opportunities

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This week was filled with first time motion practice, fun outings, and fascinating observation opportunities.

I drafted my first motion of the summer. Throughout the process, I communicated with the supervising attorney with any questions. Once I implemented the attorney's feedback, we sent it to the client who also had some ideas. I got the opportunity to implement the client's ideas into the drafted motion. You don't learn much about client relations in law school so this was the perfect opportunity to interact with a client and understand how to involve them in the process if they wish to be hands-on. It felt great to get some substantive feedback on my work so I can continue to develop and improve my work product.

I also attended an attorney lunch, which was a great opportunity to get to know everyone on a more personal level. I still hadn't met all the attorneys in the office, so I met a few new people at lunch. The "Champa Bay" spirit is ramped up due to the Lightning's position in the Stanley Cup Finals, so it is fun to be out and about in downtown Tampa and see the city come together. One of my favorite restaurants in Tampa, the Oxford Exchange, is only a ten minute walk from the office. On Friday, it was great to take a break and walk there for a delicious lunch.

When I had some extra time, I observed a few more mediation and arbitration conferences. Now that I am more seasoned, I drafted summary reports and contracts once the conferences ended. This was a fantastic chance to see the different ways a mediation or arbitration can end—not a single one is the same and we will always need to assess the best options for the client.

My favorite part of the week was observing associate Jaime Reitz in a few of her depositions. I was so impressed with how she thought on her feet and quickly, yet thoroughly, addressed any unexpected topics. Although everyone develops their own deposition style, I learned a lot by watching Jaime's cool and collected demeanor.