

Week Eight-Celebrations, Mergers & Acquisitions and Mock Trial Preparation

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Best office birthday ever!!! This week was my birthday, and my wonderful friends Marifel Rosario and Diana Bronson (with some assistance from Reggie Guillaume) decorated my office for me to help celebrate! Thank you guys so much, it really made my birthday so special. When I walked around the corner that morning and saw my office my whole face lit up I was so excited. I can't say enough how much it meant to me. And to make my birthday even better, we had the office multicultural food festival that day so I got to try some wonderful food at lunch. We ordered from local restaurants, including Peruvian, Jamaican, and Greek food so there was tons of good stuff to eat. It was getting nice birthday wishes all day long from people passing by my office, and it really was such a nice way to end week eight.

This week was really cool because attorney Brad Davis gave us a presentation on the transactional work he does (specifically on mergers and acquisitions). It was really interesting to see a different side of the law, because this summer my work has been focused on the litigation side of things. We got to hear about how an M&A deal works, the things you have to think about, and overall what your role is as an attorney from start to finish. We also got to ask questions and hear a lot of stories about really interesting clients and the relationships you form over the years.

Week eight was also full of mock trial practice (on top of keeping up with regular assignments). But I will say, after every mock trial practice we had I could see a big improvement the next day. It was really cool to notice such a big improvement from one day to the next, which was probably a result of all the good feedback I received from each of the attorneys I practiced with and then applying that feedback. Not only did I get a chance to practice my direct examination, cross-examination, and closing argument in front of attorneys from the Orlando and Miami offices, I also learned how to get an exhibit into evidence in a trial and even got to practice that with Reggie Guillaume to make sure I would be prepared to do it during the mock trial. I know everyone is so busy, but still they take time out of their day to practice with us and it really makes a big difference. I want to thank everyone that has helped us so far because I think I can speak for all us summer associates when I say, we really do appreciate it so much. The more I practice, the more I look forward to the mock trial—but I still have a ways to go before I'll feel ready to argue in front of our judges. Until next week!