



WORKING FOR THE BEST LAWYERS MONEY CAN'T BUY



ISABELLE DEAN

INTRODUCTION

Investigative Internship

Provide public defenders with a basis for a defense theory by executing investigation. Tasks included:

- Interviewing witnesses in the field and correctional facilities
- Drafting statements and memoranda for use in court
- Conducting criminal background checks
- Locating, collecting, reviewing and summarizing all written records and documentation that is relevant to the case
- Photographing, measuring and diagramming crime scenes and creating demonstrative evidence for trial

OBJECTIVES

Personal Goals

- Broaden my understanding of the law and the criminal justice system
- Develop strong relationships with clients

Leadership Goals

- Strengthen Organizational Skills
- Build Resilience

Advisor Expectations

- Conduct ethical investigation
- Build rapport with clients, their families, and potential witnesses
- Clear communication between investigators, attorneys, and supervisor

DISCUSSION

Personal Takeaways

- Always put the client's needs first
- Keep record of completed tasks to stay organized
- This job can be heartbreaking sometimes, don't internalize failures
- I really want to pursue a career in criminal defense

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you Seana Holland for the internship of a lifetime, Drew Flood and Liz Vasily for teaching me what it means to be a zealous defense attorney, my partner Haley Filippine for always challenging me to be a better investigator, and President's Leadership Class for supporting my professional goals.

RESULTS

Personal Goals

- Worked on a range of felony and misdemeanor cases from hate crimes to assaults to drug possession
- Built my own investigation plans and collaborated directly with the attorneys on potential defense theories
- Built great relationships with nearly all of our clients. I still call to check up on them frequently

Leadership Goals

- Learned how to manage a substantial workload and meet deadlines in working for 2 defense attorneys on 10+ cases at once
- Managed adversity after failures whether it be a witness refusing to talk to us or a guilty verdict



Highlights

- Tracked down and delivered a critical witness to our first jury trial
- Helped grant the early release of a 19 year old obese asthmatic client, after researching the significant health risks of COVID-19 in jails and prisons
- Built such strong rapport with a government witness that he cooked us dinner AFTER we served him a subpoena
- Made long lasting friendships with clinic team members

Criminal Defense Takeaways

- Investigation is extremely critical to criminal defense
- Find humanity in people no matter what they've done
- A person doesn't have to be factually innocent for it to be a wrongful conviction
- There's nothing more fulfilling and challenging than defending people that have world turned against them