

During my internship this summer with Franklin County Mayor Richard Stewart in Winchester, TN, I was introduced to the functions and procedures of local county government. I enjoyed the flexibility that I was given throughout the summer, and I was able to gain an understanding of the workings of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Franklin County Government. Having the opportunity to observe the courts, including General Sessions, Juvenile, Circuit, and Drug Court, and making connections with the judges and attorneys will be very beneficial in my future plan of attending law school.

I learned about the role of the mayor and county commissioners as well as visiting several different offices also involved in maintaining a functional government for Franklin County. These other offices included the finance office, trustee's office, register of deeds, property assessor's office, and the archives as well as the court system. Through visiting, observing, and working in the various offices, I observed the individual functions of each office as well as how the different offices work together to form a complete government. I also spent time working with the Franklin County Industrial Development Board and the Health Department. In my time in the mayor's office, I learned about working in an office environment where I worked on several different projects for Mayor Stewart throughout the summer and also worked with individuals phoning or coming into the office with concerns or needs.

I enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to have worked so close to so many people involved in County government. I plan to maintain the connections I made over the summer as well as continue to observe court cases when I have the opportunity. It was very beneficial for me to see the various branches of county government, particularly the judicial. I have reaffirmed that I am very interested in the legal field and want to work towards my goal of attending law school.