

My internship this summer consisted of working for Judge McMahon in the Family Court of South Carolina. It was a very rewarding experience and gave me an incredible opportunity to learn from people who were in my desired future profession of law. Overall, I learned about how the court system worked, how court more specifically worked during trials and hearings, and what different groups played a part in a typical family court courtroom.

Observation was a large part of my internship. The other two externs and I sat with Judge McMahon in her courtroom and listened to each of the cases. We heard all types of family cases, everything from divorce cases to sexual abuse cases to adoption cases. It was very insightful seeing not only Judge McMahon but also other family court judges because each judge had a different style of courtroom procedure.

Another large part of my internship included assisting Judge McMahon with tasks that helped me become more familiar with the State Courts. Judge McMahon would ask us to read over cases that were related to a case we had heard in court that day. The externs and I also assisted in writing memorandums for Judge McMahon. This enlightened me on how legal documents were written and how to read these documents and get the important information needed.

This internship was an incredible opportunity that taught me valuable lessons not only pertaining to law but to life as well. I learned the inner workings of Family Court and discovered that it takes many different people in many different departments to make Family Court run smoothly. I gained experience in multi-tasking, fast note taking, and observation that helped me gain a better understanding of where a future in Family Law could take me.