Summer Law Clerkship

Thomas Summerwill
Location

- Chicago, IL
- Cook County State Attorney’s Office
- Felony Trial Division
- Honorable Judge Lacy’s Court
Regular Themes

If you have a passion for the following then strongly consider this position:

- Justice
- Law (Prosecution to be specific)
- Public Service
- Crime
- Policing
About the Position

- First hand look at law and justice
- Prosecution side of law
- Glimpse of urban America
- First hand dealing with crime and violence
- Police/Law relations and public trust
Biggest Takeaways

- Criminal Law and Judicial System experience
- Further developed prelaw skills and law aspirations
- Public service for the community
- Further understanding of urban America
- Develop professional skills and career development
Words of Advice

- Patience is an essential
- Absorb every factor of the work (big or small)
- Never be afraid to ask questions
- Be about your wits to focus on the little details
- Go above and beyond to gain the most
- The more you put into your work the more you gain in return
My Own Takeaways

This internship changed my life and particularly my scope of urban America. The opportunity further amplified my aspirations to pursue a career in public service and law as I had the chance to delve into the facets of criminal law. I initially felt very overwhelmed with the fast paced nature of the position and my own inexperience, but I came to love that fast paced environment and the focus required for each case. I feel as though I have grown immensely as a person and have a greater vision and goals due to this law clerkship.
Thank you to the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Badger Reach Fellowship for allowing me to pursue my future aspirations and take on such a unique and engaging internship. Special thanks to the Cook County State Attorneys Office and the Felony Trial Division where I had two incredible assistant state attorneys. This internship changed my life and it would not be possible without the many people who allowed me to take on this opportunity.