SAMPLE INTERNSHIP REPORT

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This week has gone by so quickly. The office has been very hectic and I have certainly stayed busy. I continued to complete work in the firm's estate files. I prepared a variety of documents for clients to sign while they were in the office. For example, I did an inventory and final settlement for one client. I discussed the real/personal property of the decedent for tax forms and prepared affidavits of descent. Although I feel that my Probate Practice and Procedure class prepared me well for my work, I didn't realize that there was so much involved in getting an estate settled. The highlight of my estate work this week was finally settling one large estate. The heirs had been fighting over several issues relating to the estate of their mother. After several phone calls and a few office visits, I finally got all of the heirs to agree who would be acting as the administration over the estate. I received the last two waivers in the mail this week and I felt like I had won a small battle. I was really happy to see that the heirs were beginning to work together. Although the family members obviously have their differences, it was nice to see them behaving in a civil manner. I commented to one of them that I was certain that their mother would have appreciated this gesture. Although the heir agreed, I could tell that the situation was very difficult for him and that we would likely still have to resolve other issues as the estate settles.

I also drafted several complaints for new cases the firm received over the past few days. Some of the complaints involved traffic violations while others involved claims against

insurance companies and the social security board. The complaints were fairly straight forward and were very similar to those we have drafted in Litigation Practice and Procedure. Although we will need to wait for answers to the complaints, the attorneys have asked that I start to draft discovery requests for a few of the larger matters. The clients in these cases want to move forward quickly so we are trying to have document requests and interrogatories ready as soon as possible.

One of the most interesting cases that we have received recently involves a client that had his skull crushed in a mining accident. He has suffered severe physical and psychological damage. Recently, one of his doctors reported that he was improving. He had started to suffer fewer seizures and his body control was improving. Unfortunately, the judge construed this to mean that he was completely healed. However, the doctor simply meant that the client was having only 3-4 minor seizures and 1-2 major seizures a day, as compared to the dozens he was suffering each day before his treatment. We are now asking for a motion to redocket the claim, to consolidate the old one with the new and to remand the case for further process. It amazes me that our disability system is so impersonal. It is clear that the system does not take time to actually look at the person and the family members involved. Instead, the courts simply review the facts on paper and make a rush decision. All too often it is difficult to make the judge realize that just because a person is doing better doesn't mean they are well.

I also prepared an employment contract and fee agreement between Mr. Dessers and one of our new clients. This was relatively simple. As a matter of fact, the fee agreement was structured much like the one I did in Prof. Johnson's class. There were clauses, just like she had us to include in our assignment. Of course, Mr. Dessers had his own details to add, but due to Prof. Johnson's instruction it was a lot easier for me to understand what he was talking about.

Once again, I have uploaded examples of my work. The examples have been redacted and Mr. Dessers has reviewed them.