

Student Name Nathan  
Emusinsky@piercelaw.edu

Email this to

EXTERNSHIP LOG  
Spring SEMESTER      YEAR

Please complete a log form and e-mail it each week. For each day you should have several notations. If during a day, you are working on one project, try to write down the different discrete tasks that you are performing. Your observations should be about what you are learning, what skills you are developing, or need to develop. Comments on the legal system generally or about the type of law you are working on are appropriate. If there is something that you want to talk about please note it. Comments about supervision are welcome. Both comments about how it is done and what you learned from it are appropriate. No information of a confidential nature should be contained in this document.

DATE	SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES	Time allocated per project Start & Finish Times	Total time for period Keep a total of hours for the week here	OBSERVATIONS	Supervising Attorney Judge name
WEEK_2_ -					
Day & date 17 Jan	Closed for recognition of MLK Jr. Day Read briefs to second assignment	8:30 - 11:30 A.M.	3	Didn't want to lose too much time because of the holiday so got started with my next assignment.	Brandon

18 Jan	Further work on first bench memo.	9 - 12	3	This morning I was called into Judge's chambers by the law clerks - they did some shifting of cases so that the case I did about 3-4 hours work on (including yesterday) I am now not doing. I have received a new case involving accrued benefits of a Vietnam Veteran's widow (coming from the CAVC). So, this case will be an almost completely new area of law for me (outside exposure to such a case last week during oral arguments). Lesson learned here is to remain flexible and communicate to the clerks progress on cases so that they know not to take them from you after you put in a significant number of hours. I'm also learning to have patience to work through close calls on emotionally-charged issues plead by advocates that can make it hard to decide which way to go all the while coming up to speed on the law. Pot Belly's - good meatball sub;	Brandon
	Lunch	12 - 12:30 PM			

Finished up a first draft of my first bench memo.

12:30 - 6 5 1/2 PM

Working on the waiver of attorney-client privilege prong of this case has caused me to reflect on becoming a litigator. Although not wholly opposed, it would be difficult for me to make some of the judgment calls required. In this case, one side received a letter in the mail directed to the court and sealed - making it clear it was for "*in camera*" inspection. Unbelievably, one of the lead attorneys on the case decided to open it and read it rather than return it. Once read, he decided that the contents so unequivocally indicated inequitable conduct before the PTO, that he had to send a letter re his disbelief to the side that had inadvertently sent the document. Also, sometimes parties misconstrue the issues and/or the law in the name of advocacy - when do you cross the line into unethical, or malpractice?

Brandon

19 Jan	Polished up first draft of first bench memo; flushed out some issues more thoroughly.	9 AM - 12:30 PM	3 1/2	I learned this morning to pay strict attention to the issues brought on appeal and to not forget them. I kind of brought in another issue that had been argued/lost below, but had not been appealed because I thought it was related. Wasted some time - but not too much. Every case I read even marginally related to the issues helps me further understand relevant law.
	Lunch	12:30 - 1 PM		
	Travel Home	1 PM		Many of the chambers are closing down after 1 PM due to security personnel sweeping through the building this afternoon in preparation for the inauguration.
20 Jan	Worked at home reading briefs for newly assigned case.	8:30 - 11:30 AM	3	This case deals with an area of law almost completely foreign to me - Veteran's Appeals. Here, a widow of a Vietnam Vet who had his disability rating decreased from 100% to 80% shortly after returning home seeks back pay claiming he was 100% disabled, and that she should also get accrued benefits for a delayed post-traumatic stress syndrome problem he had for years before his death in a car accident.

	Watched Bush's inauguration on T.V., then came into work to see the parade from the T. Mackey Court's Building.	11:30 - 4 P.M.	
21 Jan	Log work; revision and editing of first draft of first bench memo;	9 A.M. - 12 P.M.	3
	Lunch	12 P.M. - 12:45 PM	3/4
	Start to outline, plan out memo for the Veteran's case.	12:45 - 5 PM	4 1/4

Finished revising at least the substance of my first draft, and did some rewording as well. I feel pretty good that I put in a strong effort on a complicated case, which was my first. I'm excited not only to get feedback, but to see how oral arguments come out and what the judges think.  
Free lunch! Cool! ☺

Not much to add here. Just going through and learning some new law for the first time and trying to get a handle on a long chronology of facts that dates back to this Veteran's wounding in 1968.