

LEGAL INTERN TESTIMONIAL



ZION ALEXANDER

LEGAL INTERN

INTERNSHIP PERIOD

*6TH JULY 2022 TO 5TH
SEPTEMBER 2022*

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"You are the person that is, but you are also the person that becomes". These were the words I had to keep in mind during my journey as the Legal Intern at the FTC. The members of staff welcomed me with open arms, I was constantly reminded to seek assistance if I was confused, overwhelmed, discouraged or had outside obligations that might result in a slow day at the office for me. Ms. Krystle Maharaj, Senior Legal Counsel kept in constant contact with me to make sure I was doing well mentally and being updated as to whether things were going as scheduled, along with the gentle reminder that I was more than welcome to request an extension if necessary.

When I began, the first couple of weeks were an adjustment. When I was included in my first investigation I got to see firsthand how quickly, seamlessly and efficiently the staff worked. I remember being so shocked at the pace at which the documents would be handed to me to include my submissions. I was indeed the person that was a law student just recovering from his second year, never worked at a legal establishment and never knew one inkling about competition law, truly, it was an adjustment.

Along the way, however, Ms. Maharaj kept me grounded by reminding me not to overwork myself, not to work on my holidays, to ask for help and to ask for an extension where necessary. She also took time out of her day to have meetings with me each week, where we worked on individual soft skills such as problem-solving, time management communication and responsibility, to name a few.

The weeks to come would be a blur as I would have settled in with a routine, my newfound knowledge of competition law and my new individual habits cultivated by Ms. Maharaj's tutelage and guidance that assisted me in being more efficient, managing my time wisely and not being afraid to prioritize my time out of work for myself and the people I care about. This experience has instilled in me a profound understanding and appreciation of competition law and the FTC's important role in our nation. Looking back on my time at the FTC, I must thank all the members of staff for the support and assistance they gave me. I can definitely say that through this journey, I was truly the person that became.

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