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LAW SCHOOL
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EXTERNSHIP PROPOSAL RELEASE FORM

You have permission to include my externship proposal for reference use by other students interested in an externship.

Yes

No

Chen, Alice

Printed Name

Signature

WRITTEN PROPOSAL

1. Position

I have secured a position as a full-time extern in Fall 2011 at the New York City Law Department, specifically in the Economic Development Division.

2. Overview of New York City Law Department and Economic Development Division

The New York City Law Department is responsible for all of the legal affairs of the City. Law Department attorneys draft and review local and State legislation, real estate leases, procurement contracts, and financial instruments for the sale of municipal bonds. The Department also provides legal counsel to City officials on a wide range of issues such as immigration, education, and environmental policy. The Law Department is comprised of 17 legal divisions and 3 support divisions. It is staffed with 690 lawyers and 850 support professionals in 10 offices located in all five boroughs, as well as in Kingston, N.Y. The Law Department is led by the Corporation Counsel who is appointed by, and serves at the pleasure of, the Mayor.

The Economic Development Division (EDD) acts as the City's business and transactional counsel for a wide range of challenging and complex projects that are intended to enhance the City's economic base either by generating direct revenue for the City's treasury or by strengthening the City's tax base and general economic health. EDD attorneys work on all aspects of the transaction, from structuring the deal at its inception and negotiating and drafting the documentation, to following through to closing and administering the agreements after closing. The EDD's work is diverse and can run the gamut from the sale of an individual parcel of City-owned land to the comprehensive redefinition of midtown Manhattan's Far West Side. The EDD works closely with the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, and many other City and State agencies.

3. Description of Proposed Program

As an extern with the EDD, I would assist attorneys with real estate transaction matters. Examples of such matters include land sales, leases, contracts for construction, funding agreements, transfers of development rights and development projects that may involve a combination of the preceding. I would also conduct legal research and prepare memoranda used in providing advice to clients, analyze legal documents, and assist in drafting document provisions and correspondence. Further, I would attend meetings, negotiation sessions and transaction closings with EDD attorneys.

My direct supervisor will be the intern coordinator for the EDD, Isabel Galis-Menendez, but I will be working with different attorneys on various transactional matters. I have been told that there is currently an associate working with the EDD full-time (who was deferred from his firm for one year), who will be leaving in September – the general idea is that I will step in where he has left off.

Some of the projects that the EDD is currently working on that I would potentially be involved in include: funding and governance issues for various parks in the City, such as the 1.5 mile High Line Park in Chelsea and the 85-acre waterfront Brooklyn Bridge Park; strategizing the planning initiatives needed to upgrade the Coney Island amusement and entertainment district to create incentives to visit the site year round; building 5,000 new units of affordable housing in the southernmost tip of Long Island City in Queens; and researching federal and state laws in regards to whether the City will be able to extend the number 7 subway line to New Jersey.

4. Educational Objectives

I have given quite a lot of thought to whether I wanted to apply for an externship and where my externship would be, as I do not take missing a semester of law school lightly. The classes I have found to be the most valuable so far at law school have been the practicums and clinics I've had the good fortune to take, namely Business Transactions with Professor Lutz and the Human Trafficking Clinic with Professor Carr. One of the main reasons I am applying for an externship is that I hope to continue to develop my practical skills, so that once I graduate, I will be able to seamlessly transition from the study of law into the practice of law.

I believe that the Economic Development Division at the NYC Law Department offers me the unique opportunity to hone these practical skills. I hope one day to practice transactional law, although I have not yet decided which area. Whether or not I choose to become a real estate attorney after I graduate, I believe that the research, writing, negotiation and time management skills I learn will serve me well in any area of transactional law.

Further, at the EDD, I will be able to truly explore the practice of real estate law. Prior to coming to law school, I was a legal assistant in litigation as well as capital markets, and I spent my 1L summer in Hong Kong working for the international capital markets team of a large international law firm. During my 2L summer at Davis Polk, I look forward to exploring other areas of law such as M&A and tax. At the EDD, I would like to further expand my horizons and see a few real estate transactions through from beginning to end.

Finally, this externship would allow me to combine my educational objectives with my passion for the city I've grown up in. I will be able to gain a unique perspective on how New York City approaches economic development, a topic that I became interested in during my undergraduate studies, where I majored in economics, and

that I have continued to be interested in at law school (specifically, in Law and Development with Professor Rine). I will also have the opportunity to work with the EDD on projects that affect many areas of the City I've had the privilege of calling home, from Manhattanville to South Street Seaport. I can't think of a more fascinating environment to spend a semester, learning about and working on projects that will literally shape the landscape of New York City.

In preparation for my externship, I am currently enrolled in 15 credits, so that I will be able to complete the requisite 82 units before graduating. By the end of this year, I will have satisfied all of my graduation requirements with the exception of the upper level writing requirement, which the externship research paper will satisfy, and the transnational law requirement, which I will complete in my final semester.

I hope I have demonstrated to the Committee that I have given serious thought to this endeavor, and I truly believe that a full time externship with the EDD would enable me to accomplish educational objectives that cannot be achieved within Law School classes.

5. Research Project

Having only finalized my externship plans on Thursday, March 3, it is a bit early for me to have decided upon a firm topic for my research project. However, one of the Economic Development Division's ongoing projects has been a topic of interest for me since I was in high school. This project is Columbia University's initiative to expand its campus to Manhattanville, from 125th Street to 133rd Street and from Broadway to the Hudson River. This expansion, encompassing approximately 17 acres, will create thousands of new jobs for New York City residents, in particular those in Harlem. The Economic Development Division has been at the forefront in fashioning the underlying transactional relationships to support and implement this initiative.

By 2008, Columbia University owned about 91% percent of the land, but there were five parcels whose owners, Sprayregen, Singh and Kaur, refused to sell. In December 2008, the Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) approved the use of eminent domain on Columbia's behalf, but Sprayregen, Singh, and Kaur challenged the decision. On Dec. 4, 2009, the Appellate Division struck down ESDC's approval, stating that the ESDC's designation of Manhattanville as blighted—a condition of economic disrepair beyond the potential for natural relief—was made “in bad faith,” and that the expansion of an “elite” private university did not constitute a public use, as required by eminent domain law.

Columbia claimed the project constituted a public use because it would create jobs and scientific research facilities. And while eminent domain had traditionally been used for explicitly public purposes—to build a highway or a bridge, for instance—the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed in 2005 in the landmark *Kelo v. City of New London* case that it can also, under certain conditions, be used to transfer property from one

private owner to another. Supporters of Columbia's position have turned to the November 2009 *Goldstein v. New York State Urban Development Corporation* case, in which the Court of Appeals upheld the use of eminent domain for the Atlantic Yards commercial development in Brooklyn. The Atlantic Yards project is another real estate development project that the Economic Development Division has been guiding the City through, that will create thousands of housing units and jobs for the middle class, stimulating the City's economy.

In December 2009, the Court of Appeals overturned the Appellate Division's decision to halt the expansion. The Court of Appeals stated that the expansion of a private university can serve the public good, because "the indisputably public purpose of education is particularly vital for New York City and the State to maintain their respective statuses as global centers of higher education and academic research." The ruling continues, "The purpose of the Project is unquestionably to promote education and academic research while providing public benefits to the local community. Indeed, the advancement of higher education is the quintessential example of a 'civic purpose.'"

I would like to examine these two eminent domain cases in more detail (the Manhattanville case and *Goldstein v. New York State Urban Development Corporation*) to determine what, if any, effect they have had on the private property interests of New Yorkers. More specifically, I would like to address whether this ruling opens the door for potential eminent domain abuses in the future, and whether such a decision by the highest court in New York will deter lower courts from preventing such abuse. I believe that as an extern with the Economic Development Division, which has been involved in both of the Manhattanville and Atlantic Yards projects from their inception, I would be in a unique position to learn about the litigation surrounding both projects as well as the effects such litigation may have on future real estate development projects in the City.

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Yes

No

Schneider-White, Whitney

Printed Name



Signature

FALL 2013: FINAL SEMESTER EXTERNSHIP PROPOSAL

WHITNEY SCHNEIDER-WHITE

INTRODUCTION

I am a 3L fall starter, graduating December 2013. I took a semester off from school after my third semester and returned the following fall. Over the past year I have become significantly interested in the field of socially responsible investing, or impact investing. This field has many subsets and numerous interpretations but I see it as a movement to find financially sustainable solutions to problems in resource allotment, development, government-based programs, and numerous other areas that tend to benefit the poor and underprivileged. It can act either as an alternative or as a supplement to traditional and charitable funding. I am also working on a note regarding financing infrastructure in developing countries using impact investing techniques that I intend to submit to the Michigan Journal of International Law ("MJIL").

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Socially responsible investing is an emerging field in the law that has developed primarily in the last two decades. There are many companies in this arena and lawyers, even global law firms, have begun interacting and creating legal structures to approach these new issues. I have taken two directly related courses at the law school: impact investing and the International Transactions Clinic (the "ITC"). I have also taken numerous other transactional and international classes that contribute to this field of study: Transactional Drafting, The Public Corporation, Transnational Law, Business Planning, International Project Finance, and International Corporate Governance. I have also been on MJIL for the last two years. This coursework and journal work has given me a perspective of the world that is new to me and has inspired me to enter a field that I believe will create global positive change.

WHY OBJECTIVES CAN BE ACHIEVED MORE EFFECTIVELY OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Because this is an emerging field, there are few classes on it offered at the law school and I have taken the classes that relate both directly and peripherally. Because this is an emerging field of law, the most relevant learning experience is within the workplace where the mechanics can be observed as they evolve, instead of within the frame of hindsight that the classroom offers. The two types of employers I am applying to for a fall position, outlined in detail below, offer rich educational experiences in different ways. Working for a government agency that participates in international development represents the more established parts of the field but also offers a unique view of new developments; government agencies are also often directly involved in this arena and participating in that process would be invaluable. Working for a nonprofit that in this field will offer insight into current innovations and challenges while allowing me to assist, and find solutions for, the innovators.

The socially responsible investing network is a small, tight-knit group of people. Through the ITC and my impact investing course, I have been able to obtain some interaction with the community. However, if I was in DC working in the field, I would have significantly more exposure.

POSSIBLE HOST ORGANIZATIONS*

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION (OPIC):

Description: OPIC is the U.S. Government's development finance institution. It mobilizes private capital to help solve critical world challenges and in doing so, advances U.S. foreign policy. Because OPIC works with the U.S. private sector, it helps U.S. businesses gain footholds in emerging markets, catalyzing revenues, jobs and growth opportunities both at home and abroad. OPIC achieves its mission by providing investors with financing, guarantees, political risk insurance, and support for private equity investment funds.

Duties and Responsibilities: OPIC's Department of Legal Affairs negotiates bilateral agreements allowing OPIC to offer its programs in other countries, represents OPIC in any negotiations with foreign governments, drafts project finance and investment funds legal documentation, reviews political risk insurance contracts, negotiates with investors and their counsel on the details of finance, funds and insurance transactions, determines liability and the extent of compensation due in claims on OPIC insurance policies, and represents OPIC in arbitration, among other duties. OPIC's legal interns apply legal principles in such areas as corporate law, administrative law, public international law, international business transactions, insurance, banking, and finance. Law student interns help OPIC's attorneys advise OPIC in matters relating to insurance, finance, investment funds and administration and can be assigned to a number of legal research and writing projects. The Department makes every effort to match required research assignments to interns' areas of particular interest.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID):

Description: USAID is responsible for administering the United States Government's economic and humanitarian foreign assistance program. USAID develops partnerships with countries committed to enabling the private sector investment that is the basis of sustained economic growth to open new markets for American goods, promote trade overseas, and create jobs here at home.

Duties and Responsibilities: The Office of the General Counsel legal interns work in one or more of the following divisions: Acquisition and Assistance; Africa; Asia/Middle East; Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance; Economic Growth, Education and the Environment; Ethics and Administration; Europe and Eurasia; Global Health; Latin America and the Caribbean; Legislation and Policy; and Litigation and Enforcement. The work normally assigned to an intern in most of the office divisions consists primarily of legal research, the writing of memoranda and the drafting and review of legal documents. USAID legal interns are regularly included in the bi-weekly meetings of the entire legal staff, during which current issues relating to USAID in general, and to specific foreign assistance programs in particular, are presented and discussed.

* Descriptions are all taken from the entities' websites and job descriptions are taken from their intern descriptions when possible.

THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION (MCC):

Description: MCC is an innovative and independent U.S. foreign aid agency that is helping lead the fight against global poverty. MCC is changing the conversation on how best to deliver smart U.S. foreign assistance by focusing on good policies, country ownership, and results. MCC forms partnerships with some of the world's poorest countries, but only those committed to good governance, economic freedom, and investments in their citizens. MCC provides these well-performing countries with large-scale grants to fund country-led solutions for reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth. MCC grants complement other U.S. and international development programs.

Duties and Responsibilities: MCC legal interns will have an opportunity to assist the MCC Office of the General Counsel with a wide-range of legal duties related to international and administrative law in MCC compact countries. Interns will assist attorneys with providing legal advice to MCC staff on issues with development of new compact programs and implementation of existing compact programs; reviewing disbursement related documentation; drafting letters, certificates, notices, agreements and memos; sitting in on negotiations with foreign governments and conference calls with local counsel; researching international law issues, as well as general law topics; generating closing checklists, assisting attorneys in conducting due diligence, responding to due diligence questions, and drafting MCC policies and procedures.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

ASHOKA INNOVATORS FOR THE PUBLIC:

Description: Ashoka launches leading social entrepreneurs, Ashoka Fellows, and supports them in their endeavors with a wide range of programs and initiatives to address the sector's growing needs. Ashoka works to ensure that social entrepreneurs and their innovations can help inspire a new generation of local changemakers. Ashoka regularly implements new programs that advance its field: Changemakers sponsors collaborative competitions intended to develop innovative solutions to social problems; the Changemaker Campus Initiative works with teams of entrepreneurial students, faculty, and staff from across campus to transform select universities into hubs for social innovation; the Youth Venture invests in teams of young people to start and lead their own social ventures; the Global Academy is a group of social entrepreneurs who attempt to direct and advance the field of social entrepreneurship; the Full Economic Citizenship initiative enables business-social alliances to develop the products and distribution channels to serve currently marginalized markets better; and the Social Financial Services program addresses the lack of quantity and diversity in financial support for social ventures.

Duties and Responsibilities: Ashoka legal interns report directly to the Global Legal Director and work with him to assist Ashoka and its Fellows in all areas of the law. Sample legal projects include reviewing and drafting legal agreements (e.g., service contracts, partnership agreements), updating organizational policies and advising on corporate governance matters specific to a global network of NGOs. Legal interns in the past have helped to, among other things, revise Ashoka's global bylaws, draft a new conflict of interest policy, start a committee to explore the intersection of faith and social entrepreneurship, and develop a strategy for expanding city chapters.

THE LEX MUNDI PRO BONO FOUNDATION AND LAW FOR CHANGE (LFC):

Description: Lex Mundi provides social entrepreneurs with access to legal advice and attempts to strengthen the rule of law. This is done through finding experienced lawyers who provide legal advice to social entrepreneurs on a pro bono basis and fielding teams of experts to work on selected legal reform projects. LFC is a free online legal resources designed to support, strengthen and empower the U.S. (and soon global) social sector by providing jurisdiction-specific legal information, how-to legal guidance, news and features on legal developments to those working to improve communities and lives and bring about positive social change. The goal of Lex Mundi is to improve the lives of the poor and disenfranchised by utilizing the talents and resources of the Lex Mundi network.

Duties and Responsibilities: The legal intern develops new legal content and resources for publication on the LFC website; reviews previous publications and update to correspond with current laws; networks with experts in the field; attends “brown bag” lunches and conference calls with lawyers, social entrepreneur guest speakers, and University leaders; authors legal blogs for the LFC website that might be expanded for related legal or other academic journals; helps develop and implement strategic opportunities to expand the LFC platform; and helps develop a new LFC national community of practice that strives to connect and engage law students, practitioners and academics that are interested in the intersection of law and social change.

ASPEN NETWORK OF DEVELOPMENT ENTREPRENEURS LEGAL WORKING GROUP (LWG) AND TRANSFARM AFRICA (TFA):

Description: The ANDE LWG develops legal tools and guidelines that can help address core challenges in the small and growing business (SGB) sector because the legal community has not yet developed sufficient expertise or appropriate tools to support SGB needs in a cost-effective and efficient way. TFA is an initiative of Aspen Global Health and Development at the Aspen Institute. TFA removes barriers to sustainable commercial food systems and markets to benefit Africa’s smallholder farmers, entrepreneurs and consumers. Removing barriers to trade, investment, and seed systems, TFA applies a demand-driven approach to policy change, beginning with investments in the “Missing Middle” of African agriculture: the underdeveloped link between Africa’s small commercial sector and small farmers. TFA addresses gaps in the “Policy Supply Chain” to improve policies and programs at all levels. TFA focuses on changes in policy and practice that work as “transformation triggers” to stimulate additional investment and growth, to boost income and employment and make a broader range of nutritious foodstuffs available to African consumers at reasonable prices.

Duties and Responsibilities: The legal intern works with the President of TFA and Chair of the ANDE LWG to provide support to both efforts. This will include conducting research on trade, investment, and related laws in Africa and other developing markets; reviewing content and identifying new projects for the LWG; coordinating projects among collaborators in the LWG; supporting the creation of the New Markets Lab to scale up TFA's activities to link interventions to help entrepreneurs at the grassroots level with systemic policy change at the national, regional and international levels; and researching agricultural supply chains with untapped economic potential and identifying the legal impediments hindering their development.

WORK TO BE PERFORMED

All contemplated internships offer a range of research and writing opportunities related to the specific topics addressed by the organization. They will often be about finding solutions to newly identified problems so creative, and interdisciplinary, approaches will have to be taken. There will also be many opportunities to network with other legal experts in the social entrepreneurship field. Most of the organizations named above work with each other so any of these opportunities could overlap with another.

BUILDING ON ACADEMIC AND PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

I have only recently discovered this field of law but it has inspired me. It is in hindsight that I have realized that most of my classes, which were taken based on my general interests, not a particular goal, contribute directly to this field. Speaking with Deborah Burand, a senior attorney in this field who founded the International Transactions Clinic, she says that she experienced something similar when she had a variety of jobs that seemed incoherent until she became involved in microfinance.

Working before law school, during summer, and during my semester off, I have held a wide variety of jobs because I had not found a particular legal field that interested me enough to commit to. With socially responsible investing I have found a path that is driving me and I am ready to commit.

This summer I will be working at the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs Legal Working Group and TransFarm Africa, mentioned above, assisting in implementing new initiatives. While on spring break, I spoke to the attorneys at each of the nonprofits listed and expressed my interest in participating in their ventures, even if not working directly for their organizations.

FACULTY SPONSOR

My faculty sponsor will be Professor Deborah Burand who codirects the Law School's International Transactions Clinic and teaches Impact Investment Lawyering. Attached is an email confirming her willingness to supervise my externship.

POSSIBLE RESEARCH PAPER TOPICS

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION:

This paper could explore a particular country and the legal impediments that confront American businesses who try to enter that region.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

This paper could address the legal reasons for foreign aid and why it is in the United States' interest to develop partnerships with emerging economies. Alternatively, it could discuss the legal issues that exist when developing partnerships with emerging economies.

THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION:

This paper could address the factors that are considered when deciding whether to invest in a country. It could follow the process, generally or specifically, from start to finish. It could generally describe the path that is taken or focus on a specific country and determine whether that country has the prerequisites to receive a grant.

ASHOKA INNOVATORS FOR THE PUBLIC:

This paper could describe some of the main issues that social entrepreneurs face and the legal solutions that are available. It could discuss specific hurdles that Ashoka Fellows have met and describe the process for solving the issues.

THE LEX MUNDI PRO BONO FOUNDATION AND LAW FOR CHANGE:

This paper would build on material developed for the Law for Change website, addressing a legal development to those working to improve communities and lives and bring about positive social change.

ASPEN NETWORK OF DEVELOPMENT ENTREPRENEURS LEGAL WORKING GROUP AND TRANSFARM AFRICA:

This paper could follow a supply chain and describe the gaps within it and the legal solutions found, or being explored, to combat those gaps. Alternatively, a specific hole in a supply chain could be addressed and multiple possible solutions considered.

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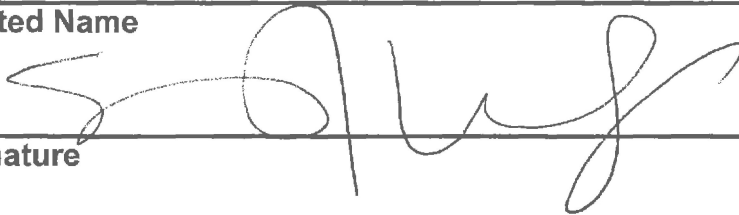
Yes

No

Wright, Samantha

Printed Name

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Wright', written over a horizontal line.

Samantha Wright
Proposal for Winter Externship Program
Faculty Advisor: Prof. Valerie Newman
October 23, 2012

I would like to extern with either the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office in Norristown, PA or the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office in Trenton, NJ during my last semester of law school, Winter 2013. I currently have interviews with both offices scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2012. While externships during a student's last semester are not encouraged, I will have met all of my academic requirements by the completion of this current semester.

Furthermore, during the Winter 2012 semester I experienced a personal family problem that led to my taking a two week break from school to go home to Pennsylvania. This problem is still on going and being able to complete my last semester from home would be extremely beneficial, emotionally, mentally, and financially. I have one semester left of law school before obtaining my degree and using that semester to complete a full time externship will not only fulfill all of my degree requirements but allow me to be home with my family as needed.

Additionally, last winter, I completed the part time externship class. I thoroughly enjoyed that experience and felt that a full time externship would really allow me to really immerse into a new position without worrying about other class and time commitments. However, I wanted to complete the remainder of my required courses before pursuing another externship, which is why I am choosing to partake in this program during my last semester.

I have known that I wanted to pursue a career in criminal law since the day I came to Michigan Law. After getting acquainted with both criminal prosecution and defense work through classes, clinic, and work experience, I am confident that I want to end up in a district attorney's office after graduating. This externship would be an incredible opportunity for me to solidify my desire to pursue criminal prosecution.

Both the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office and the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office are local offices prosecuting crimes at a county level. I plan to sit for both the PA and NJ bar exams, so placement in either office would be a beneficial opportunity.

SPECIFIC DUTIES TO BE PERFORMED

Both offices have established semester-long externship programs. As an extern I will be participating in all aspects of criminal cases, from investigation through trials and sentencing. Externs are introduced to the role of an Assistant District Attorney. Each extern is then assigned to assist a Senior Assistant District Attorney (ADA) within one of our Trials Division Units (Major Crimes, Domestic Violence, Sex Crimes or Economic Fraud). Assignment, as much as possible, will be based upon the extern's expressed interests. Each ADA works closely with his/her extern, to provide the best possible educational experience.

Externs are given a wide range of prosecutorial responsibilities both in and out of the courtroom. Inside the courtroom, with direct supervision by the assigned ADA, externs represent the state in criminal matters such as probation violation hearings, indirect criminal contempt proceedings, and summary appeals. Outside the courtroom, externs perform legal research, write briefs and

other memorandum, meet with police, interview witnesses/victims, and perform case file reviews.

HOW THIS INTERNSHIP BUILDS ON MY PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

Throughout law school I have participated in a variety of educational and extracurricular activities relating to criminal law. I have been on the executive board of the criminal law society, in the criminal appellate practice clinic, and have taken classes including criminal law, both criminal procedure classes, legal ethics, evidence, and evidence practicum. Additionally, I had the opportunity to work with the county prosecutor at the 25th district court in Lincoln Park, MI during the summer after my 1L year.

This past summer, I was supposed to work at the Monroe County Prosecutor's Office in Monroe, MI. When a family situation arose, I had to go home to Pennsylvania for the summer. I had a great experience at a local Legal Aid office, however, this externship would now allow me to have the experience that I missed out on last summer. Furthermore, this externship would allow me to apply the substantive criminal law knowledge that I have gained in the classroom throughout the past three years.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

An externship with the district attorney's office will expose me to a side of the criminal justice system that I could not otherwise be exposed to in a classroom setting. Being able to engage in the practical application of substantive concepts will be an effective learning tool and invaluable to my future career.

While my time in the classroom has been absolutely necessary to understand the various concepts of criminal law, hands on experience is the logical next step in effectively implementing those concepts. The criminal appellate practice clinic has given me the opportunity of hands on defense work, however, the externship would give me the prosecution experience that I have not yet had.

Additionally, I have spent my time in school learning criminal law and procedure from a federal and Michigan perspective. Having the opportunity to work in Pennsylvania or New Jersey will allow me to familiarize myself with the law in the states where I plan to be practicing upon graduation as well as the nuanced litigation practices specific to those states. For example, New Jersey indicts by grand jury, a process which I have no familiarity with as of yet.

Ultimately, allowing myself to be fully immersed in this opportunity under the supervision of expert practitioners would bring my law school experience full circle.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND TIMELINE

My research project will focus on how prisons across the country are dealing with transgender inmates. Having a transgender sibling, this research paper will allow me to explore my interests in both gender issues and criminal law.

Professor Valerie Newman has agreed to supervise this project. Professor Newman is an acclaimed public defender with the State Appellate Defender's Office in Michigan. She has extensive experience with the criminal law system as well as working with prisoner's rights.

I plan to explore the rights of transgender inmates with regards to housing assignments, those being assigned based on sexual organs rather than sexual identity, and those being forced into segregation for safety reasons.

Research Paper Timeline:

December 15, 2012	Finalize topic
February 1, 2013	First outline
March 1, 2013	Second outline
March 25, 2013	First draft
April 1, 2013	Second draft
April 15, 2013	Final draft

Thank you for your consideration of my externship proposal.

Sincerely,
Samantha Wright