

Matheson

June 2020

Summer Intern

During a legal internship with Matheson I learned the wide variety of work that large law firms do. I learned how important time management is when balancing various tasks and projects. How team work and individual initiative are blended to provide an efficient work environment. I learned how high the standard of work must be when dealing with world class clients and how a lawyer must balance giving the client enough relevant info while also making a document easy to read and follow.

Revenue (Collector Generals Office)

June 2019 – August 2019

Temporary Clerical Officer

In this role I assessed taxpayers cases and decided which enforcement route would be best for each case. I learned how to research and investigate each case. How to critically assess the information I have been provided and compare it against other sources. I needed to be aware of the legal ramifications and the responsibilities I had to make the right and informed judgement with each case. I learned how the rules I have learned during my degree are applied in real world tax scenarios and how important dates and deadlines are for all things tax and law related.

Non legal experience:

TKMaxx

September 2019 – October 2020

Sales Associate

SuperValu

June 2018- February 2019

Sales Associate

In both of these roles I learned the importance of good customer service. In these roles I was involved in various types of work from cashier work to working in a deli. However, all of the roles involved being the first point of contact with customers and this has given me great experience in dealing and helping with customer queries and ensuring excellent customer service. Both roles involved working in a team and helped me understand where and when I can best help and fit into a team.

Martin D. Ginsburg. Ruth Bader Ginsberg inspires me however her husband is also an incredible person. Her life story is so inspiring, she faced so much adversity at every stage of her career. The adversity she faced in trying to work as a lawyer during a time when she was expected to stay at home, adversity during her gender equality cases and the opposition to her appointment to the US supreme court. Yet through all of this she was supported by her husband. A tax lawyer who had a promising career of his own but went against tradition by taking a back seat to his wife's amazing work. He took care of his children and supported her. Just like she had supported him while they were in college and he became very ill. Martin knew that Ruth's work was important and sacrificed

his own goals to further someone else's. He didn't cave to societal pressure's because he knew what the right thing to do was. That sacrifice and support is what allows great things like Ruth's work to flourish.

Why do you want to be a solicitor. Develop

From an early age I have had an interest in the morals of society and the policies that govern our lives. This was furthered by a work experience in a garda station and a solicitors office. This interest centres around law but includes tax and economics and other systems that effect society. My studies of law in college, law competitions I have competed in, and work experience in law firms have all confirmed that it is the career path for me. I enjoy personal interactions and the fact solicitors are more focused on client relationships than barristers means that I could continue to use and develop my interpersonal skills as a solicitor. I think solicitors can make a real impact on the lives of many individuals as the quality of the work you do can alter the outcome of really important decisions. This role of helping individuals in their time of need while also being involved in the challenging and protecting of societal values seems to me to be a really rewarding career that I would love to have.

Why are you suited.

There are multiple skills required to be a solicitor. Good time management, teamwork, initiative, research, critical thinking and communication just to name a few. These skills are used every day as solicitors balance the different cases they are working on, work with colleagues, and provide informed solutions to their clients in an easy to understand manner. I think I possess a lot of these skills. My time playing sports and competing in competitions has honed my teamwork skills. Working and keeping my department up to an excellent standard in both TKMaxx and Supervalu enhanced my ability to manage my time and use my initiative to ensure my work was done. My law degree and both my experience in Matheson and Revenue have developed my research skills as each role has required me to be knowledgeable on the law and know to critically analyse the information I have been provided. All of these roles have needed great communication and interpersonal skills, from dealing with taxpayers wishing for a phased payment agreement to working with colleagues on a presentation on how to modernise the courts system in Ireland.

What is important to you.

I think that honesty and integrity are really important to me. In the people I surround myself with but also in myself. I think life is so much easier when these core values are followed. That doesn't mean that life's choices or obstacles become easier, in fact in the world we live in it usually becomes harder. I mean that making decisions and working towards a goal is much more straight forward and consistent when you know who you are and are honest with yourself and others about it. Whether that person be someone you're happy with or not. It's only by being honest and fair with ourselves and others that we accept constructive criticism, understand and grow from our mistakes and can help others do the same. I find that keeping those two values strong can help build the best relationships whether they be professional or personal. Beyond that I think helping others is important to me as it has given me the most satisfaction in any of my roles whether retail based or law based.