

US Attorney for the Southern District of New York

Terrorism and International Narcotics Criminal Intern

Carlie Clarcq '20 Political Science



The Mission

The US Attorney's mission is to prosecute cases that violate federal laws and to represent the US government in doing so. This particular office leads the nation in international and domestic prosecution, specifically revered for its terrorism and public corruption cases it is known as the "Sovereign District."

Co-op Role

My role was super exciting, and changed every day! I began by assisting with discovery materials and helping organize evidence, transcribing undercover recordings, and making binders for the attorneys. By the end, I was doing my own trial as a paralegal, and was involved in every step of trial preparation. I also got to go to court whenever I had free time to watch various trials, conferences and hearings!

Special Project

The best part of my co-op was when I had the opportunity to do my own trial! For weeks before I led the trial preparation, making binders and exhibits, attending meetings and prepping with witnesses. During the trial, I sat with the lawyers at counsel table and published exhibits to the judge and jury. I even got to testify during the trial, and read some text messages that I had found on the defendants phone from the witness stand!



The Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, where I got to watch many trials, hearings and conferences and also got to do my own trial!

Course Integration

Courses that helped me while on co-op:

- International Law
- World Politics and International Law Through the United Nations
 - Research Methods
 - International Relations

Future Impact

This co-op offered incredible exposure in the legal field, and I am now certain that I want to attend law school after I graduate! I also learned so much about public law and the criminal justice system first hand. Not only was I able to hear from the perspective of lawyers prosecuting criminals, but sitting in on proffer meetings with cooperators gave me interesting insight from the viewpoint of prior criminals themselves. I believe this will give me a diverse perspective when I come back to campus and take classes on these subjects.