

SIP Alum and Members Share Feedback at Luncheon



Blackburn Domene & Burchett

Intern: LaShawn Gilliam

Dinsmore & Shohl

Intern: Hau Le

Legal Aid Society

Intern: Quiyana Murphy

(Sponsor: UofL Brandeis School of Law)

Louisville Metro Public Defender's Office

Intern: Nakia Morrow

(Sponsor: Louisville Bar Association)

Robert J. Morrison, Attorney at Law

Intern: Lanisha Porter

Stoll Keenon Ogden

Intern: Jason Jewell

Thompson Miller & Simpson

Intern: Mikella Fields

Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

Intern: Dwight Haggard

Summer Internship Committee

Diane M. Laughlin, Chair,

Blackburn Domene & Burchett

Gretchen C. Avery, *Avery & Schurman*

Angela L. Edwards, *Dinsmore & Shohl*

Hon. Brian C. Edwards,

Jefferson Circuit Court

Joseph P. Gutmann, *Central High School*

Hon. Erica Lee Williams,

Jefferson District Court

Helen A. Thompson, *Humana*

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Blackburn Domene & Burchett

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The Summer Internship Program (SIP) concluded another successful year with a celebratory luncheon at the Bar Center on August 5, with eight student interns recognized for their dedication to the program.

The SIP is a partnership between the LBA and Central High School that allows students the opportunity to intern for local law firms and offices, gaining insight into the legal profession and the opportunity to interact with legal professionals, as well as valuable work experience. In turn, the SIP affords employers increased productivity, the opportunity to impact the future of the profession, and a great diversity initiative.



The luncheon allowed employers a chance to praise the interns for their hard work, enthusiasm and willingness to learn. Keynote speaker DeAndrea L. Baltimore, a past SIP participant and solo practitioner kicked off the poignant celebration by sharing her personal journey and how her experiences as a summer intern led her to today's success.

Like so many other interns, she expressed an undiminished gratitude for the opportunity, turning directly to her former employer to say he had no idea how much of an impact he had on her.

LBA member and coordinator of Central's Law and Government Magnet, Joseph P. Gutmann said, "To me, this is the truest form of education."

Students and employers agree that the program truly provides a benefit to all.

At the luncheon, second-year Wyatt Tarrant & Combs intern Dwight Haggard offered effusive thanks for his employer and the opportunity saying, "It's not the work I do, it's the people I meet. It's like they're all fighting for me to succeed...whatever I need, they'll get it for me. They invest in me to do better. I'm so grateful for it."

Jason Jewell, intern at Stoll Keenon Ogden, said he's now more interested in a career in the law and that over the course of the summer, he'd lost track of the number of times he said "I love my job!"

Thanks to sponsorships, we were able to place some students in public sector firms, such as the Legal Aid Society and Public Defender's Office, where an extra pair of hands are always of great value. At Legal Aid, the program "afforded the opportunity to complete tasks which otherwise would have been pushed back." The Public Defender's Office said the whole office benefitted from their interns' hard work and what a "pleasure it was to teach and assist those wanting to learn more." In fact, the Public Defender's intern "generated much of our clients' trial preparation notebooks."

Each year, student participants continually express stronger interest and understanding of the profession noting the program provided them with a new perspective, invaluable networking opportunities, and helped them become professional, productive employees.

Mary Rivard, Stoll Keenon Ogden, said, "It is a real pleasure to support this program. It benefits everyone to increase inclusiveness and strengthens our commitment to maintaining an environment which embraces diversity."

For more information or to sign up for next year's program, contact Program Chair Diane M. Laughlin at (502)584-1600 or dlaughlin@bdblwk.com or Cindy Robinson at (502)583-5314 or crobison@loubar.org. ■