



Draven Cook, a graduating senior of Jean Ribault High School is one of eleven 2017 Summer Internship Program award recipients! Draven aspires to become an attorney. With this in mind, Draven was placed at Lipscomb Smith Law under the leadership of Latanya Lipscomb Smith.

Attorney Smith had to say about Draven's experience, "It was a pleasure to mentor Draven this summer. Draven was very shy, but what I appreciate about him is that he was eager and willing to complete whatever task that was presented.

The true practice of law is extremely boring and mundane (unlike what's seen on TV). Often times, you rarely go into the court room. The true of practice is done at your desk, on the telephone, reading a book, or doing research on the computer. Draven was able to understand this concept very well. He was on the phone gathering research information from Judge's assistants, clients and government agencies.

Since I practice law in both Florida and Georgia, Draven was able to observe court in both jurisdictions. He was also able to observe state court proceedings and federal administrative hearings. These courtroom observations was another example of how different the real world is compared to what you view on television. Draven was able to see firsthand how a court hearing that may last for 5 minutes in front of the judge, may take 6 hours in preparation.

My goal with the summer internship experience was for Draven to have acquired time management, public speaking, and creative writing skills that he can take with him on his future endeavors. I am confident in saying that I achieved my goal."

When asked his thoughts regarding his summer experience, Draven responded, "Over the summer, I had the pleasure of working at Lipscomb Smith Law. Being mentored by Attorney Smith has taught me excellent skills that will be useful in the future. During my internship, I learned how to interpret law, how to prepare before a trial, things clients can do to assist with building a strong case and what happens in the court room. These newly learned skills will be further developed as I pursue my career in law. I have benefited greatly from the opportunity that the Annie Ruth Foundation had afforded me. My summer experience was unforgettable and worthwhile for my future and I am greatly thankful to the AnnieRuth Foundation for offering such a great program to local high school students."

[Click here](#) to see photos from my amazing summer internship experience.