

Learning Goals and Plan of Deborah Mergner
At: Guilford County District Attorney's Office High Point
Supervised by: Matthew Stockdale

Goal One: Increase familiarity with cases heard in Juvenile, Mental Health, and Drug Court to gain knowledge of whether those are places I can see myself working in the future.

Objectives:

- Attend specialty court sessions once per week.
- Review existing files.
- Discuss with Ashley Fox when there may be juvenile cases coming.
- Research relevant caselaw.

Benchmark: (1) Determine who works in Mental Health and Drug Court by end of week two.
(2) Observe 10 hours in those courtrooms by midterm.

Goal Two: Improve my professional network to overcome anxiety associated with entering the workforce within the next year.

Objectives:

- Introduce myself to 3 judges on the bench.
- Attend lunch with office attorney's once per week.
- Connect with three DAs on LinkedIn by end of term.

Benchmark: (1) Connect with one professional on LinkedIn by midterm. (2) Introduce myself to one judge on the bench by midterm.

Goal Three: Use practice certificate in criminal court to improve trial skills and knowledge of criminal law system.

Objectives:

- Interview witnesses and victims.
- Talk with officers to gather facts.
- Offer exhibits into evidence.
- Try 5 cases by completion of residency.

Benchmarks: (1) Interview 3 victims and 3 witnesses by midterm. (2) Speak in front of judge within the first two weeks of residency (Friday March 19, 2019)

Debbie Mergner
Student

Matthew Stockdale
Supervising attorney